

CITY OF ELLENSBURG

Date of Meeting

Time of Meeting

Place of Meeting

Minutes of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Commission Meeting

July 9, 2024

3:00 PM

Council Conference Room & Zoom

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Nancy Goodloe called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

Roll Call Present: Nancy Goodloe, Phil Backlund, Tylene Carnell, Kandee Cleary, Teresa Divine, M. Eliatamby-O'Brien, Amber Hoefer, and Alex Mandujano.

Also present: Nicole Klauss, DEI Commission staff member; ESD liaison Rhonda Schmidt; applicant Claudia Wright; applicant Serena Turney via Zoom; and 2 members of the public online.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Phil Backlund moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Amber Hoefer seconded the motion. There was no discussion. **Motion approved 6-0.** (Commissioner Cleary had to step out of the room).

3. Approval of Minutes from June 11, 2024, Meeting

Commissioner Tylene Carnell moved to approve the minutes from the June 11, 2024, DEI Commission Meeting. Commissioner Phil Backlund seconded the motion. There was no discussion. **Motion approved 6-0.** (Commissioner Cleary had to step out of the room).

4. New Business

A. Klauss reported receiving a resume and retreat proposal from Sigrid Davidson. The proposal was outside of the Commission's budget, so the session topics needed to be cut down.

The Commission decided to ask the facilitator to lead a session on these topics.

- How we can better engage with the community using new tools
- How the commission works together within its own identities and how it can advise the Council accordingly; disrupting systems of harm

Klauss will connect with the facilitator to see what can be accomplished with \$1,400 (7 hours of work total including prep time). The retreat budget is \$1,600 total and \$200 will be reserved for refreshments and supplies. Staff will facilitate the updating goals session at the retreat.

B. Unity Park Grand Opening

The Unity Park grand opening planning committee has met twice so far. They want to build a schedule with performers on the stage and things happening around different areas of the park.

Commissioner Carnell said the Ida Nason Aronica Elementary School previously had a cultural fair and she is reaching out to the organizers of that events for contacts. Commission members provided ideas. There was a suggestion to reach out the Central Washington University Diversity and Equity Center for student involvement. Commissioner Divine has a list of organizations that had booths at CWU's Day of Action. Commissioners should send contacts or additional ideas to Carnell.

Klauss said the DEI Commission has \$1,500 in their budget for the event that could be used toward performers.

5. Previous Meeting Motions and 90-Day To-Do List Review:

Goodloe reported:

- The Juneteenth event was a success and a good start. The planning committee met to evaluate the event and talk about next year. There is a commitment to do it again.
- World Café: The City Manager is going to set up meeting with the new school superintendent. The goal is to hold a World Cafe at the Ellensburg School District and target students and parents, sometime in late October or early November.
- Goodloe is having lunch with Carolyn Thurston and will see if the opportunity is still there to partner with the Dispute Resolution Center.

6. Liaison Reports

Rhonda Schmidt, Ellensburg School District liaison, reported:

- ESD is still waiting on the Department of Justice report to come back. It will be reported on in the future
- ESD is updating its procedures around bullying, intimidation, harassment, how it deals with incidents when they occur, and what it is doing to prevent incidents.
- ESD is updating it strategic plan next year.
- ESD has some research about diversity in schools, which could be available for a future presentation to the commission.
- The staff training sessions this year will be about supporting LGBTQIA students, mindfulness in schools, substance abuse in students and dialectical behavioral therapy skills.

Commissioner Carnell brought up youth homelessness and the need to somehow talk about this.

Commissioner Hoefer asked about data availability on representation/identities of teachers. Schmidt said it is self-reported through the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction with their certificates.

7. Subcommittee Reports

Goodloe reported:

- The Listening Tour Subcommittee lost some members. Carnell is joining the group.
- The goal with the listening tours is to go to where the groups are, and the subcommittee may consider looking at new questions for collecting better data.
- Goodloe wants to meet with the subcommittee to get started on the planning piece for the rest of the year.

Commissioner Mandujano and Backlund went to CWU and made some important connections with groups on campus for listening tours. There may be opportunities to connect with students in the fall. Commissioner Cleary suggested connecting with the CWU BIPOC staff group and the leadership group.

Commissioner Eliatamby-O'Brien is willing to be a part of the conversation about refining language use.

Commissioner Carnell said there is a one pager which outlines the process and questions, so the subcommittee could build on that. Carnell suggested adding a question asking if anyone has participated in a listening session before.

8. Commission Member Reports

Commissioner Carnell reported she stepped down from Helen House and will be coming in with a different lens. She is still with Central Washington Justice For Our Neighbors.

9. Staff Report

Klauss mentioned the agenda packet included correspondence from KEEN regarding the grant.

10. Public Comment

Theresa Plue provided public comment.

Preview Next Meeting August 13, 2024

The meeting will stay on the schedule for now, but if there is no business, the chair will cancel it.

Meeting adjourned.

Nicole Klauss

Drafted: 7/16/24

Approved: 8/13/24