

CITY OF ELLENSBURG

Date of Meeting

Time of Meeting

Place of Meeting

Minutes of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Commission Meeting

January 14, 2025

3:00 PM

Council Chambers & Zoom

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Nancy Goodloe called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Roll Call Present: Tylene Carnell, Kandee Cleary, Nancy Goodloe, Amber Hoefer, M. Eliatamby-O'Brien, Alex Mandujano, and Serena Turney.

Commissioner Cleary requested an excused absence for Commissioner Phil Backlund and Commissioner Teresa Divine. Commissioner Mandujano seconded the motion. There was no discussion. **Motion approved 6-0.**

Also present: Nicole Klauss, DEI Commission staff member; Charlita Shelton, CWU liaison; Rhonda Schmidt, ESD liaison; Cyndi LaChappelle, Executive Assistant to the City Manager; and 3 members of the public (2 in person and 1 via Zoom).

2. Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Tylene Carnell moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Serena Turney seconded the motion. There was no discussion. **Motion approved 6-0.**

3. Approval of Minutes from December 10, 2024 Commission Meeting

Commissioner Serena Turney moved to approve the minutes from the December 10, 2024 DEI Commission Meeting. Commissioner Tylene Carnell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. **Motion approved 6-0.**

4. New Business

A. Elect Co-Vice Chairs

Commissioner Cleary nominated Commissioner Carnell to be a co-vice chair and Carnell accepted the nomination. Commissioner Eliatamby-O'Brien nominated Commissioner Hoefer to be a co-vice chair and Hoefer accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Cleary moved to elect Commissioner Carnell and Commissioner Hoefer as Co-Vice Chairs for 2025. Commissioner Eliatamby-O'Brien seconded the motion. There was no discussion. **Motion approved 6-0.**

B. Revisit Listening Tour Policy

The Commission reviewed the listening tour policy and pre-session script. There was a suggestion to remove the addendum drafted.

Commissioner Hoefer moved to approve the script and listening tour policy with the removal of the addendum. Commissioner Cleary seconded the motion. There was no additional discussion. **Motion approved 6-0.**

C. Review Commission Work Plan

The Commission reviewed the 2025 work plan.

The task “put data into a document for review, discuss how to use the data, and put a structure in place to be able to use data (e.g. listening tour data) is on the 90-day goal list and has a March 31, 2025 suggested deadline.

Chair Goodloe suggested splitting up the task: “Meet with the Farmer’s Market and Night Market organizers to discuss a multicultural day at the Farmer’s Market and possibly sponsoring vendors to get more diverse vendors/possibly combine with Multicultural Day at Unity Park” and the commission agreed. Commissioner Divine is already working on connecting with the Farmer’s Market organizers. Chair Goodloe formed a committee to work on a Multicultural Day at Unity Park, which includes these members: Goodloe, Mandujano, Eliatamby-O’Brien and Charlita Shelton.

Commissioner Carnell and Commissioner Turney agreed to work on ideas for the “Support Pride events every June” by March so there is time to loop in City Council.

For the “Begin engagement with citywide inclusive art in order to develop further representation,” Klauss will work with Arts Commission staff Kelle Vandenberg to schedule a time for Eliatamby-O’Brien and Hoefer to attend an Arts Commission meeting to discuss what opportunities might exist and what is already happening. The next Arts Commission meeting is February 13 at 4 p.m.

Eliatamby-O’Brien suggested that since one of the 3-year goals is “BIPOC business support,” the commission should attempt to start those discussions as they work on the multicultural day at the market and Unity Park events, which will involve business owners.

Chair Goodloe reported the Juneteenth Committee met and is planning a 2-day celebration with the EDA on June 18 and 19, 2025. The 18th will be a celebration at The Red Pickle in coordination with the Night Market and the 19th will be a celebration at Unity Park.

5. Liaison Reports

Commissioner Carnell asked liaisons if there are ways the DEI Commission Members can support their organizations.

ESD liaison Rhonda Schmidt reported on the Department of Justice’s summary report for the Ellensburg School District. The district is still planning to hold a Belonging in the Burg event about bullying, but the date has not been decided. Goodloe asked to be

added to their planning committee and Klauss commented that the City can help publicize the event.

CWU liaison Charlita Shelton reported: University diversity officers received a request from the State budget office to provide information on DEI-related expenses to the WA appropriations committee.

6. Subcommittee Reports

Klauss reported the remaining grant reports from 2024 were attached to the agenda packet. The grant subcommittee will schedule a time to discuss the 2025 grant timeline and update the application.

7. Commission Member Reports

There were no commission member reports.

8. Staff Report

Klauss sent out the calendar for the year via email and will update the contacts list with new staff information. A doodle poll will be sent out soon for fall retreat dates.

9. Public Comments

Chair Goodloe called for public comment online and in person. There was no public comment.

Next Meeting February 11, 2025

Topics: Review 2025 grant documents and timeline & have discussion about commission becomes size to reflect diversity in community (listed on work plan)

Meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Nicole Klauss

Drafted: 1/15/2025

Approved: 2/11/2025