

Austin Human Rights Commission
Meeting Minutes, June 26, 2017

Present: Jason Baskin, Jessica Swanson, Andre Goodlett, Lia Culbert, Richard Lemons, Miguel Garate, Adam Pulchinski, Trish Wiechmann (City Liaison)

Absent: Shawn Martin, Raquel Imbert

Citizens visiting: Barbara Oehninger, Chad Olson

Commissioner Baskin called the meeting to order w/quorum at 6:17 pm.

- 1) Adopt/Amend Agenda – J. Swanson moved to adopt, A. Goodlett 2nd. Unanimous pass.
- 2) Approve April Meeting Minutes – R. Lemons moved to adopt, M. Garate 2nd. Unanimous pass.
- 3) Treasurer's Report – To-date \$1,036.21 spent. Spending since last meeting: \$200 for Multicultural Austin event, and \$75 in gift card for trafficking victim identified through SE Regional Navigator, Laura Sutherland. \$3,463.79 remaining.
- 4) Citizens Addressing the Commission
 - Both Barbara & Chad noted that they had come to observe and learn – nothing specific with which to address the commission
- 5) Sub-Group Reports
 - Increasing Access – A. Pulchinski spoke with Jake Vela about the LGBTQ community locally, and will continue efforts to identify “connectors”. R. Lemons recalled that Sarah Karki would like to come present to AHRC. **J. Baskin will follow up** with her.
 - Gender Roles & Sexual Violence – Still planning for 3 part film series in Fall. Had screened “Gender Revolution” by NatGeo with Katie Couric, and “The Mask You Live In” by the Representation Project. **Will screen “Miss Representation”** before next meeting.
 - Building a More Inclusive Community – Focus on Welcoming Report:
- 6) Welcoming Report – J Baskin referred commissioners to the executive summary. Commissioners agreed that 3 recommendations was the right number. Discussion of number of people ideally on a task force – something like 7 to 10 people. Discussion of more official position in city government that is focused on diversity and inclusion – agreed that was unlikely, but that building a business case for why it would be important would be worthwhile. Consider what happens when no one takes the initiative to take preventive, proactive action to integrate and represent new diversity. Does Austin want to be proactive now, or reactive later? J Baskin noted that the report will be presented to the City Council during the work session on Mon 7/17 at about 6pm. **T Wiechmann will confirm the time and communicate to commissioners. J Baskin will prepare PowerPoint slides.** AHRC will request that City Council formally adopt the report, making a motion during the work session to take it to the next council meeting. **J Baskin may discuss with council members beforehand.** R. Lemons moved to approve the report, A. Pulchinski 2nd. Unanimous pass.

- 7) Round Table – R Lemons reported that he and others had attending the Multicultural Austin Awards event. It was a great event that obviously meant a lot to several minority, refugee and/or immigrant communities.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04pm. Next meeting Monday, July 24, 2017. (J Baskin will be absent; **J Swanson will chair**).