

**Austin Human Rights Commission
Meeting Minutes, February 26, 2018**

Present: Jason Baskin, Jessica Swanson, Sara Karki, Jennifer Braaten, Andre Goodlett, Miguel Garate, Oballa Oballa, Dan Mueller

Absent: Lia Culbert, Trish Wiechmann (City Liaison)

Citizens Visiting: None

Commissioner Baskin called the meeting to order w/quorum at 6:30 pm.

- 1) Adopt/Amend Agenda – Unanimous pass.
- 2) New HRC Commissioner – Welcome Jennifer Braaten. (Also new Commissioner Sara Karki's first official AHRC meeting)
- 3) Approve December Meeting Minutes – J. Swanson moved to adopt, M. Garate 2nd.
Unanimous pass. Note: *January 2018 meeting canceled due to weather.*
- 4) Treasurer's Report – New 2018 budget of \$4,500, less \$350 paid for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day event. \$4,050 remaining.
- 5) Strategic Welcoming Plan Upcoming Sessions
 - Ideation Session – Leadership Development (Th. March 1 at 6pm, Library)
 - Ideation Session – Increasing Connections Between Communities (Tues. March 20 at 6pm, Library)
 - Ideations should brainstorm initiatives and partners toward achieving success, as defined by Welcoming Committee & advisory panel
 - Community Conversation (Tues. April 17 at 6pm, location likely at Our Savior's Church)
 - Welcoming America & New American Economy will be there to support planning
- 6) Discuss 2018 Strategic Focus Areas
 - Currently have Welcoming (Building Inclusive Community), Gender, and Increasing Access.
 - Consensus to split Welcoming, keep Gender, and let Increasing Access go
 - New 2018 focus areas/committees:
 - Building Leadership in Multicultural Communities
 1. Members: S. Karki, A. Goodlett, D. Mueller, O. Oballa
 - Increasing Connections between Cultural Communities
 1. Members: J. Baskin, A. Goodlett, D. Mueller, O. Oballa
 2. May include education of refugee/immigrant communities – especially youth – with regard to legal consequences of criminal behavior to decrease naiveté and risk of detention/deportation
 - Understanding Gender Roles, Identities, and Stereotypes
 1. Members: J. Swanson, L. Culbert, J. Braaten, A. Goodlett

2. May include countering sexist stereotypes by telling stories of female leadership/empowerment
 - Each group should schedule & complete “kickoff meeting” before next AHRC meeting (3/26) to brainstorm 2018 events, activities, initiatives, and possibly budget
- 7) Strategic Welcoming Plan Update
 - Have 12/19 meeting with core group. Jason will propose highlights from other cities’ plans. Assembling advisory panel – 15-20 people. Hope to meet a few times between January and March. Will get recommendations and craft best practices. The end goal is a community event, perhaps in April, that will provide feedback for a proposal to the city by late May. At least will be a list of ideas & recommendations. Maybe 10-12 pages with 6-7 focus areas/initiatives and 2-3 things to do for each, as well as suggested partners for each. Dan will brainstorm some benchmarks for what makes a welcoming community. Update to come in Jan.
- 8) Create Draft Budget Plan for 2018
 - Consensus to discuss in March after committees have met
- 9) Payment for Graphics on Facebook Page
 - Consensus that more info was needed before approving. J. Baskin will request from ex-commissioner Adam Pulchinski.
- 10) Plan for Women’s History Month
 - Show Films at Paramount?
 - Serve Like a Girl or A Path Appears?
 - Highlight different women every few days on Facebook page?
 - Include questions to garner more engagement – e.g. “Who is your favorite woman to honor this month?”
 - Consider a theme
- 11) Roundtable
 - January MLK events went well – 2 showings of Ava DuVernay’s “13th” at the Paramount. Good partnership & turnout. About 70 total attendees with good discussion after film.
 - 3/5 11:30am RCC Food Pantry event
 - 3/26 J. Basking & Richard Lemons speaking at First Congregational Church on the subject of poverty
 - 4/13 Know Your Rights event with S. Karki & other Immigration Attorneys – more detail to come
 - 4/21 Taste of Nations at the Armory. M. Garate & S. Karki moved that AHRC support with \$1,000. Last year was \$500. J. Swanson move to approve \$500 for now, with option to approve additional \$500 with budget/detail of what the total cost of the event is, and what AHRC’s additional \$500 would go toward. J. Baskin 2nd. Unanimous pass.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 PM. Next meeting Monday, March 26, 2018.