

Humboldt County Human Rights Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2021 5:00 pm -7:00 pm

I. Call to Order: 5:00 pm

II. Roll Call:

Present: Morgan, Perkins, Larsen, Aronoff, Lochtie, Rowe, Glover, Miller, Haynie, Lyons

Excused absence: None

Unexcused absence: Davies, Desir, Sundberg

III. Agenda Adjustments: Moving guest speaker City Manager Miles Slattery ahead on the schedule to guest presenters time.

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

February 11, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

February 24, SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES:

April 1, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES:

Motion to approve Feb 11 and Feb 24 minutes. M/Glover S/Aronoff y/10 n/0 a/0.

Motion passes

V. Treasurer's Report:

Lyons absent. Glover: balance: \$657.40 as of 3/31

VI. Guests or Presenters: City Manager Miles Slattery joins to discuss EPD texting investigation to provide an update. Glover reads a letter from EPD Chief Steve Watson. Independent 3rd party investigation is underway. City Manager Slattery has reached out to local groups including the NAACP, Weott Tribe and others to get help to ensure a racial equity, inclusion and diversity lens is used within City of Eureka government.

Lochtie asks how can whistleblowers/people with info reach officials. Manager said info given to city officials is sent to the investigators. Information can go directly to

law firm handling the investigation. Information to contact that law firm is on LostCoastOutpost and Sacramento Bee.

Glover asks what has been done to assess how many similar views exist within EPD.

Aronoff. Who hired the law firm doing the investigation. Slattery gave name of firm that handles similar issues that come to a high level. Ultimate decision of what firm is handling the investigation is in the hands of the City Manager.

Larsen asks City Manager Slattery, does training include officers participating in local ethnic group meetings. City Manager Slattery agrees that relationships need to be developed and will continue working with groups that have been reached out to recently.

Welcome new Commissioner Datso Perkins

Commissioner Lyons joined 5:40pm

VII. Public Comment: None

VIII. Commissioner Communications:

Miller. HCDCC looking at a citizens review board. HCDCC wanted to know when we had last addressed the idea of a citizens review board back in 1997 and 2005

Lochtie.

Replace with "Important to address issues of improper language at the time of use.

IX. Emails, Regular Mail, Phone Calls

X. Message Line Report:

Commissioners only need to use the dashboard to make a note of when a call actually comes in. No need to note that there are no calls for the day in the dashboard.

Chair to send link to the message dashboard line to all Commissioners

Miller on first half of April. Only one call required reply, a gentlemen was alleging gender bias against the district attorney, said he believed she was biased against males. Miller said allegations would be noted.

Another caller complained that she didn't have Zoom to attend hearing, and feared she would be called in contempt of court for not showing up.

Haynie reports 2 calls, one from a BIPOC woman who has had her and her daughters' human rights violated by people with power and influence in Humboldt County. Caller provided info on National Family Court Watchers Project and suggested that Humboldt County utilize the services of that project to help families with similar situations.

Second call came from a person from the Humboldt Correctional Facility, but the person had been released by the time the correctional liaison was able to confirm their status.

Future Scheduling of Message Line

- April 1-15 _____ Miller
- April 16-28 _____ Haynie
- May 1-15 _____ Rowe
- May 16-31 _____ Sundberg
- June 1-15 _____ Larsen
- June 16-30 _____ Miller
- July 1-15 _____ Lyons
- July 16-31 _____ Haynie
- Aug 1-15 _____ Lyons
- Aug 16-30 _____ Aronoff
- Sept 1-15 _____ Glover
- Sept 16-30 _____ Lyons

XII. Correctional Facilities Liaison Report:

Need to address training so other Commissioners can go to the facility. Larsen is also interested in the training necessary so she can go to the facility.

XIII. Standing Committee Reports:

HUMAN TRAFFICKING FUND

Motion to adopt the following language, "The Humboldt County Human Right Commission approves the recommendation of the Human Trafficking Committee, to grant \$3116 to Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa, to provide immigration legal services for 2 Humboldt County undocumented victims of human trafficking and their families. M/Loctie S/Glover. Vote y/9 n/0 a/1. Motion passes.

Yes votes from: Larsen, Glover, Miller, Haynie, Loctie, Morgan, Lyons, Rowe, Perkins. Aronoff abstains.

\$930 per person is filing fee for program that gives undocumented person opportunity to stay here.

Lochtie says being undocumented increases chances of being trafficked.

Glover wants to check about where the money will go, will it only go to people in Humboldt County. Lochtie says yes.

SANCTUARY ORDINANCE

None

XIV. Ad hoc Committee Reports:

RACISM / CULTURAL AWARENESS-Committee ending date: 6-30-2021

Haynie. Proclamation to declare racism a public health crisis is ongoing. Community is looking at what local stakeholder groups to approach with the proclamation draft and who in the community will be approaching them. Link to proclamation document:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1R6NJidoOBfIWqGZZNWnrnzeFI5lzeDwcCs4ljR6L7g/edit?ts=60d8d841#bookmark=id.xvyzu2qf1gar>

DIGITAL ACCESSIBILITY-Committee ending date: 12-31-2021

Brown Act set to change after the pandemic is over, Morgan will provide an update when he has more info.

HOMELESSNESS-Committee ending date: 7-07-2021

Stakeholder list document exists. Need to gather commissioners and have meeting to plan July stakeholder event.

Motion to extend Committee to 7/31/21. M/Rowe S/Haynie. Vote y/10 n/0 a/0.
Motion passes

BYLAWS AND POLICY REVIEW-Committee ending date: 05-06-2021

Motion to adopt amended bylaws as they appear in our shared drive. M/Lochtie S/Glover Vote y/10 n/0 a/0. Motion passes.

Secretary to reflect today's date as amendment and send to all Commissioners.

XV. Unfinished Business:

Morgan to present Human Trafficking grant motion from this meeting to the Board of Supervisors.

Meeting opening statement and land acknowledgement, Commissioner Sundberg still needs to review, Haynie will follow up with her.

Monitoring of EPD Texting issue moved to Guest Speaker time, City Manager Miles Slattery joined us earlier.

XI. NEW BUSINESS:

Morgan. Nominations for HRC officers. Vote to be held at June meeting. Commissioners send votes for Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Secretary. A person can serve in a role for 4 years.

Civilian Law Enforcement Review Board. Communications seeking community support. Discussed earlier by Lochtie and Miller during Commissioner Communications.

XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Further consideration of website Human Rights Survey

Cannabis Inquiry

Glover. Keep EPD texting issue to the beginning of the meeting.

Secretary to add committee member names to the top of committee blocks on the agenda from now on

Aronoff. SB 364 concerning school meals.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT: 7:08pm