

**City of Fort Collins Human Relations Commission (HRC)
January 14, 2016, 5:30 p.m. Meeting Minutes**

Location: CIC Room, City Hall West, 300 Laporte Avenue, Fort Collins, Colorado 80521

Council Liaison: Council Member Bob Overbeck **Staff Liaison:** Beth Sowder **Recorder:** Michele Scalva

Present: Colleen Conway, Myles Crane, Johanna Ulloa Giron, Joseph D. Leske, Jimena Sagas, Preety Sathe, Victor Smith, Nancy Tellez, and Mary Vivo.

Guest Presenters and Community Input: Wanda Winkelmann, City Clerk and Rita Knolls, Chief Deputy City Clerk from the City of Fort Collins; Lynn Barker, Wayne Folsom, Deborah James, Pennie Martin, and Lynn Thompson from the Fort Collins Homeless Coalition. Community members: Kimberly Chambers, Northern Colorado Equality/PRIDE; Brittiany and Aaron Hoagland; and Lester Washington.

Meeting Highlights Summary

1. Guests Wanda Winkelmann, City Clerk, and Rita Knoll, Deputy City Clerk, addressed a proposed election code change to allow elected officials to decline all or part of their compensation during their service.
2. Members of the Fort Collins Homeless Coalition addressed the HRC about the camping violation ordinance and limited availability of affordable housing in Fort Collins.
3. Issues involving Equity and Inclusion in Fort Collins were discussed.
4. Plans for a 2016 series of HRC and Poudre Library District sponsored forums were discussed.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting commenced at 5:30 p.m.

GUEST SPEAKER PRESENTATIONS

City Clerk Wanda Winkelmann is visiting City boards and commissions to **gather feedback on the topic of compensation for City Council Members**. The current charter stipulates the City to pay councilmembers. A hand-out was provided. Commissioners can email their feedback to Liaison Sowder or Clerk Winkelmann at wwinkelmann@fcgov.com.

Lynn Thompson from the **Fort Collins Coalition for the Homeless** (<http://fccan.org/fchc>) along with homeless community members presented on homelessness issues, requested the HRC to not support ticketing homeless individuals for resting or camping particularly when the shelters are full, and shared personal experiences of being homeless and circumstances that perpetuate it including fines and lack of affordable housing.

PUBLIC INPUT

Kimberly Chambers with Northern Colorado Equality/PRIDE introduced herself and the organization.

Brittiany Hoagland spoke about: 1) the City of Fort Collins website information on “forcible rape” and emphasized an update/revision; 2) the national analysis of Fort Collins for antidiscrimination of the LGBTQIA community and compared the local rating to the Colorado Springs rating; and 3) discriminating service policies in area bars affecting specific groups and provided documents of patrons' comments about their experiences posted on social media. Information was provided to the HRC.

Lester Washington shared experiences of racial discrimination in his professional and educational careers.

AGENDA REVIEW

The meeting agenda was reviewed and **unanimously approved**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The November meeting minutes were **unanimously approved**.

BUDGET REPORT

Due to it being the first meeting of 2016, a budget report was not available. It will be provided at the February meeting.

MEETING BUSINESS

Welcome New Commissioners: Commissioners Giron and Tellez will serve on the Educational Outreach Committee. Commissioner Crane will also join the EOC while continuing with the Media & Community Recognition Committee.

2015 Annual Report: A copy was provided for review. The 2015 Annual Report was **unanimously approved** with inclusion of any requested edits. Submit feedback to Vice Chair Conway by January 20th.

Equity and Inclusion Memo and Update: Copies of the draft memo were provided. Chair Smith summarized actions that lead to creating the draft memo to submit to City Council. Commissioner Crane’s hand-out of feedback regarding memo was reviewed. Commissioners discussed community equity and inclusion. Chair Smith will revise the draft memo to incorporate the meeting’s discussion and will share it with Commissioners for review. The memo was **unanimously approved** pending revisions.

On February 8th from 4-6pm at City Hall there will be a **presentation on community equity and inclusion** for the Council Futures Subcommittee.

Citizen Guest, Kimberly Chambers, suggested the “World Café” concept as a method to gain information from the community.

2016 Education Forums: Meeting scheduled for Monday, January 25th 7-8:30pm at the Old Town Library Community Room for all community organizations interested in being part of the education series. Potential speakers will be connected with forum topics and attending youth may organize forum activities.

ColoradoCares Health Care Initiative: Commissioner Vivo shared that Amendment 69 will be on the fall 2016 State Ballot and is a single-payer health system. It promises to cover more Colorado citizens than the Affordable Care Act.

Short Term Rentals: Tabled to February meeting.

Other per commissioners: Commissioners Leske and Sagas may attend the MLK Day Parade and carry the HRC banner.

STANDING COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORTS

Executive Committee (EC): Updates are emailed.

Government Relations Committee (GR): Updates are emailed.

Educational Outreach Committee (EOC): Programming updates emailed by EOC Chair Sagas and a planning meeting is scheduled for January 25th 7-8:30pm, Old Town Library Community Room.

Media & Community Recognition Committee (M&CR): Commissioner Crane emailed a liaison report. Committee updates are emailed.

UPCOMING Events/Announcements

Department of Social Sustainability announcements: Fort Collins State of the City presentation is Monday, February 29th, 6-7pm, CSU Lory Student Center Theater.

CLOSING/Call for Adjournment

Commissioners **unanimously approved** to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

Next HRC meeting is Thursday, February 11, 2016, at 5:30 p.m. at the Fort Collins Traffic Operations Center, 626 Linden St, Fort Collins, CO 80524.