



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE  
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**Monday, April 11, 2022**

**Community Design Studio Nave  
7506 E. Indian School Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251**

**PRESENT:** Emily Hinchman, Chair (left at 6:15 p.m.)  
Janice Shimokubo, Vice Chair  
James Eaneman  
Marty Day  
Hannellie Mendoza  
Stuart Rhoden  
Lawdan Shojaee (arrived telephonically at 5:08 p.m.)

**STAFF:** Jackie Johnson, Diversity Program Director  
Kelly Corsette, Communications and Public Affairs Director  
Brent Stockwell, Assistant City Manager  
Dale Weibusch, Government Relations Director

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

Chair Hinchman called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**Land Acknowledgement**

**Public Comment**

No members of the public wished to speak.

**1. Approval of minutes from the March 14, 2022 meeting**

COMMISSIONER EANEMAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MARCH 14, 2022 HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER DAY SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). CHAIR HINCHMAN, VICE-CHAIR SHIMOKUBO, COMMISSIONERS DAY, EANEMAN, MENDOZA, AND RHODEN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. COMMISSIONER SHOJAE WAS NOT PRESENT. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**2. Presentation, discussion, and possible recommendations regarding the State Legislative agenda update**

Dale Weibush, Government Relations Director, gave a presentation outlining the legislative process, recent activities at the State Legislature, and ways individuals can stay informed. He highlighted bills related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. He noted that HB2802 and SB1512 would have put a section of law that gender identity and sexual orientation are protected classes into the Anti-discrimination section of law. On March 17, 2022 an informational hearing was held and the Speaker made it clear that the bills would not advance, but that he wanted to hear from both sides. Testimony was roughly 50/50, pro/con and did not advance. Numerous other measures that would provide protections to gender-related issues were introduced and none of those got a hearing. Last week, Governor Ducey signed two bills into law, one prohibiting gender reassignment surgery for minors with no exception for parental permission and the other restricting sports participation to a person's biological sex.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Chair Hinchman asked if there would ever be an occasion where it would be appropriate for the Commission to send a message of support for efforts being made by organizations such as One Community. Mr. Stockwell explained that written support of those things is outside the scope of the Commission. Council already has as part of its legislative agenda to support any legislation that would extend civil rights protections on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, which gives Mr. Weibusch the authority to speak on behalf of the City in support of those type of bills. He said the best strategy when asked by a community partner for support is to offer support as an individual citizen and trust in the City's legislative process. It was noted that individual citizens have the ability to comment on bills when they are in committee either by speaking or registering their name and comments.

Extensive discussion continued regarding the national movement towards diversity, equality, and inclusion and the political influence on the bills being submitted. Mr. Stockwell stressed the importance of Arizona residents to advocate with their legislatures. He said not to give too much weight to the small amount of influence that cities and towns have with the legislature. Local governments are always trying to work for the concept of local control. The legislature is consistently preempting the abilities of local governments to weigh in on matters that impact their communities, claiming matters of statewide concern. He noted that the City of Scottsdale works with the League of Arizona Cities and Towns to collectively give voice to all of the municipalities, but are limited and spend a great deal of time trying to make things "not worse" more than making them better.

Commissioners requested to receive regular legislative updates. Mr. Stockwell said that regular updates can be provided as appropriate and information relevant to the Commission can be provided as it comes up.

**3. Presentation, discussion, and possible recommendations regarding the Human Relations Commission's 2022 Strategic Initiatives**

- a. Scottsdale for All marketing campaign presented by the Office of Communications staff

Mr. Corsette said that he and Ms. Johnson met with the supervisor of the Public Information Office last week to talk about increasing Scottsdale for All messaging. In addition, a calendar of Scottsdale for All promotions and events is being developed. He requested that Commissioners forward recommendations of "interesting people" to profile and make themselves available to volunteer their time at events.

Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions. Mr. Corsette said that a news article about the anniversary of the adoption of the ADO is currently being drafted. A web portal is being created for release of the document.

Commissioner Eaneman said that a draft of the Scottsdale Independent Article about the HRC has been completed. He recalled that at the last meeting there was discussion about the talk and outreach, noting that the talk is done and 15 letters have been sent out to homeowner's associations, service clubs and churches.

- b. Analysis of all past Town Hall meetings facilitated by Commissioners Shojaee and Rhoden

Commissioner Rhoden presented detailed data of past Town Hall meetings including participant comments. Past events included in the presentation were "Danger of a Single Story" held on 9/10/2020; "What is Scottsdale's Story?" held on 11/19/2020; "Riots, Racism and Reconciliation" held on 4/28/2021; and "Chaos or Community" held on 1/17/2022. He presented questions to consider moving forward. Discussion ensued regarding whether to hold a Town Hall in June, potential topics, and ways to encourage a more diverse group of people to participate.

Ms. Johnson said that she and Vice-Chair Shimokubo recently met with the chair of the Human Relations Advisory Commission for another municipality. During that conversation it was shared that he is a member of many community organizations and that they discovered that the term "town hall" had a negative connotation for many people, because they felt that they could not equally contribute to the conversation. When the group changed the name of the event, they found that more people were likely to engage.

COMMISSIONER MENDOZA MOVED TO HOLD A TOWN HALL EVENT IN JUNE.  
COMMISSIONER EANEMAN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). VICE-CHAIR SHIMOKUBO, COMMISSIONERS DAY, EANEMAN, MENDOZA, AND RHODEN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. COMMISSIONER SHOJAE ABSTAINED. CHAIR HINCHMAN NOT PRESENT. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

**4. Update and discussion regarding the Human Relations Commission Sunset Review scheduled for April 25, 2022**

Ms. Johnson announced that the Human Relations Commission is scheduled for its regular Sunset Review with the Audit Committee on April 25, 2022. Commissioners are welcome to attend, but attendance is not required. The Audit Committee's recommendation will be forwarded to City Council for approval as part of their consent agenda.

**5. Updates, discussion and possible recommendations regarding recent and upcoming diversity and inclusion- related activities and incidents impacting the City of Scottsdale**

**a. Juneteenth update**

Ms. Johnson announced that on April 5, 2022, City Council unanimously agreed to make Juneteenth a paid city holiday. This year, the holiday will be observed on Monday, June 20, 2022. She noted that plans for the Juneteenth celebration are moving forward. The City of Scottsdale and Mayo Clinic are partnering with the organizers to coordinate the event, which is scheduled for Sunday, June 19, 2022, tentatively from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**6. Identification of Future Agenda Items**

Future agenda items could include:

- Reports on strategic initiatives

**7. Adjournment**

COMMISSIONER EANEMAN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER RHODEN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED FIVE (5) TO ZERO (0). VICE-CHAIR SHIMOKUBO, COMMISSIONERS DAY, EANEMAN, MENDOZA, AND RHODEN VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. COMMISSIONER SHOJAE ABSTAINED. CHAIR HINCHMAN NOT PRESENT. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

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