

Human Rights Commission

Salt Lake City, Utah

Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 7, 2023

5:30 p.m.

The Human Rights Commission met in an electronic meeting pursuant to the Salt Lake City Emergency Proclamation and determination of the Chair. Minutes are provided in conjunction with the video/audio file.

You may also watch a recording of the meeting on the [SLC HRC Meeting YouTube Channel](#).

CONDUCTED BY: Chair Jason Wessel

Commission Members in Attendance: Commissioner Jason Wessel, Commissioner Esther Stowell, Commissioner Olivia Jaramillo, Commissioner David Leta, Commissioner Shauna Doumbia, Commissioner Everette Bacon

Commission Members Absent: None

City Staff in Attendance: Mayor's Office Staff in Attendance:
Michelle Mooney, Equity Manager
Maria Romero, Executive Assistant to Chief Equity Officer
Damian Choi, Chief Equity Officer
Roxana Orellana, Policy Advisor for Refugees and New Americans
Kristen Hansen, Know Your Neighbor Program Coordinator

Guests in Attendance: None

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 PM

Agenda Items

1. Welcome

- Roll Call

2. Approve and Adopt Minutes

- January 2023
 - Commissioner David Leta has made a motion to accept and adopt the minutes. The motion has been seconded by Commissioner Olivia Jaramillo. All commissioners in favor. Motion has passed.

3. Public Comment (5 minutes)

- No public comment occurred during this time as no guests from the public attended this meeting.

4. Chief Equity Officer Introduction (~ 15-20 minutes)

- Equity Manager will introduce the new Chief Equity Officer
 - Chief Equity Officer, Damian Choi introduced himself sharing his experience in the City, which consists of being the former Director of Compliance and working within Youth & Family Services.
 - Damian Choi has updated the Commissioners on the City-Wide Equity Plan completed by Keen Independent Research consultants, currently under review.
 - Commissioner David Leta has requested Damian Choi to share highlights of the initiatives on the City-Wide Equity Plan.

5. Update on Refugees and New Americans (~ 30 minutes)

- Roxana Orellana, Policy Advisor for Refugees and New Americans
 - Roxana Orellana outlined her partnership with the State Office of Refugees and New Americans. She shared that her role consists of reviewing existing city policy.
 - Commissioner Shauna Doumbia would like to see the expansion of the KYN Program as she was unaware that program is still being funded. She highlighted her past involvement with the program.
- Kristen Hansen, Know Your Neighbor (KYN) Program Coordinator
 - Kris Hansen shared a brief presentation on the KYN Program. This presentation contained volunteer and refugee statistics, information about the program, and the responsibilities of the job role she serves in.

6. Equity Manager Updates Chair/Vice Chair (~ 15 minutes)

- Chair and Vice Chair
 - Commissioner Jason Wessel will serve as the Chair, and Commissioner Esther Stowell will serve as Vice Chair.
 - Commissioner Jason Wessel brought forth the option to all for a 2nd Vice Chair to have continuity throughout the Commission.
 - Commissioner Olivia Jaramillo has volunteered herself for the position of moderated debate.
 - Commissioner Everette Bacon has made a motion to approve Chair and Vice Chair(s) positions. Commissioner Davis Leta has seconded the motion. The motion has passed.
- REP Commission Member Status
 - Michelle Mooney, Equity Manager has shared that Commissioner Olivia Jaramillo has a conflict-of-interest serving as the Commissioner for the

REP Commission as she is a trainer for Equality Utah. Equality Utah was selected to work with SLCPD for future trainings.

- Commissioner Chair Jason Wessel expressed interested to serve on the REP Commission. Commissioner Everette Bacon made a motion to approve this interest. Commissioner Davis Leta seconded the motion. The motion has passed.

7. Review Subcommittee Goals & Priorities (~ 10 minutes)

- CEDAW
 - An application process will open soon for individuals interested in joining the CEDAW taskforce.
- Homelessness
 - No updates were given at this time.
- Gentrification
 - Subcommittee is tabled until we are running as a full commission.
- Refugees & New Americans
 - Roxana Orellana, Policy Advisor for Refugees and New Americans will be part of these monthly meetings to occur on 2nd Tuesdays at 4 PM.
- Children/Youth Advocacy
 - Commissioner Vice Chair Esther Stowell has set the meeting monthly on 2nd Fridays at 2 PM.

8. Discussion/Dialogue about Human Rights Around the World (5-10 minutes)

Commissioner Chair Jason Wessel provided an update on Israel's current state of Human Rights Violations.

9. Review Human Rights Commission Meetings for 2023:

- ~~Tuesday, January 03, 2023~~
- ~~Tuesday, February 07, 2023~~
- Tuesday, March 07, 2023
- Tuesday, April 04, 2023
- Tuesday, May 02, 2023
- Tuesday, June 06, 2023
- Tuesday, July 04, 2023 – Recess
- Tuesday, August 01, 2023
- Tuesday, September 05, 2023
- Tuesday, October 03, 2023
- Tuesday, November 14, 2023 – Final Regular Meeting of 2023
- Sunday, December 10, 2023 – Human Rights Day Celebration
- <https://www.un.org/en/observances/human-rights-day>

The meeting adjourned at 6:42 PM

Minutes approved through consensus: March 7, 2023

MICHELLE MOONEY
SALT LAKE CITY MAYOR'S OFFICE

This document is not intended to serve as a full transcript as additional discussion may have been held; please refer to the audio or video for entire content pursuant to Utah Code 52-4-203(2)(b). This document along with the digital recording constitute the official minutes of the Human Rights Commission Regular Meeting on February 7, 2023.