

MINUTES  
JUNEAU HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA  
April 13, 2021 5:00-6:00 PM

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

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I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

- a. Present: Haifa Sadighi, Ibn Bailey, Britta Tonnessen, Mary Wegner, Angel Collins, Di Cathcart
- b. Absent: None

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- a. Ibn Updates on CBJ Board Training: Documents - <https://juneau.org/clerk/boards-committees> - The training that took place on how to be on a Board or Commission is linked on the CBJ website and is accessible by commission members and the public. Ibn outlines the main components of the committee training. Mary suggested that the training be given specifically once the JHRC becomes 7 members. An executive session might be important for discussing some issues. Di let us know that an executive session for an advisory committee is very, very rare.
- b. Preparing JHRC Annual Report - Haifa suggested that we use past Annual Reports. - Di has set June 14 as the date for JHRC discussion of the Annual Report since the Human Resource Committee meeting would have been completed. We can do both the annual report and 3 appointments to JHRC at that time.
- c. Report from Haifa Concerning Presentation from UN Rep. - Haifa had a phone conference with Mr. Dan with a list of presentations that he has been doing and his bio. Haifa will send the list so that we can see what would be important for our community. In our next meeting, make the decision if we want the presentation to happen, what that would look like, and when we can do it. Presentations for 15 - 20 minutes with 15 or so minutes for discussion and dialogue. Want to make sure that we have time to finish our own work. Maybe we could make it something separate from our regular meetings? We usually take a break in July and August and we are close to that time. Mary: I think it could be interesting to have community conversations. And with the 4 hour time difference, maybe we can have something on a Saturday, advertise and have some community participation to engage in the conversation more. It is possible he can propose different times and possible topics as an option for a longer session with the public.

- d. Pre-Planning: Framing the Work for This and Next Year - We wanted the commission to have a clear direction of where we wanted to see the commission go. We have planned before and when a pressing issue arose, we would divert to work with that issue. But having it mapped out what we want, on a yearly basis, to see where the commission evolves as well as having short and long term goals for the commission. Di: Something to think about, if you are having two new members, we might reconsider or look at not taking a pause/hiatus to look at what we want for the commission. Mary: Not sure what the typical sequence of events would be. I'm not sure what to offer because I'm not sure of the context. Haifa: Maybe we inherited how we do some things, but the intention of mapping out what we want to do would be helpful. For example, the Power and Privilege Symposium is in November, so October is spent preparing for our presentation there. Mary: UAS will not be doing the Power and Privilege Symposium (in the same manner as they have done before) this year. Will send the email from the school to Di to forward to the Commission. Di: On the website for JHRC is a list of past things that the JHRC has done. Mary: If we do this mapping out, if we don't typically meet in July and August, sub-committees can meet in those times. Ibn: Maybe we should be looking for opportunities to work with other groups in town; Glory Hall, Filipino Community, Juneau Black Awareness Association, etc. - in partnering, we can reach more people than just what we do having our meetings. We would like to get more of the community involved. If we are speaking to their interests, we can have more people engaged and can build from there. Haifa: How would it work for us if, for every one of our meetings, we invite representatives from these organizations to learn the nature of their work and to help them know that we are here. Create the connection, networking, and realize and acknowledge presence. If we know someone from these organizations to invite per meeting, they can present, we can ask questions. Ibn is in charge of reaching out to several groups to look at their schedules and see if any can make the next three upcoming meetings.
- e. Discussion Concerning Email from Ms. Shelly Smith - The city clerk's office responded promptly to the email. Ibn: As an advisory board with no investigative capabilities, we are not equipped to do that. I feel for the Smith family and hopefully there have been steps taken to get the issue rectified. How do we work with folks that have concerns and complaints that are looking for assistance? Angel: there is an educational component in her request that is well within our purview to accomplish. Mary: There are some resources out there and there are some that could be specific for Juneau and maybe we can look for resources we could add to our website. Haifa's Idea (marked for later and added to the next meeting's agenda). Angel will craft a response to Ms. Smith to be sent by Haifa as Commission chair.

### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Minutes from March 23, 2021 are approved.

### IV. UPCOMING MEETING DATE

- a. April 27, 2021 - Will send links of trainings that we can work with the Systemic Racism Review Commission to present these trainings to the community to determine how we can work with them to discuss at our next meeting.

V. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Adjourned at 6:22