

MINUTES  
JUNEAU HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA  
June 22, 2021 5:00-6:00 PM

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://juneau.zoom.us/j/99871815869>

Webinar ID: 998 7181 5869

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I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

- a. Present: Ibn Bailey, Haifa Sadighi, Angel Collins, Britt Tonnesson
- b. Absent: Mary Wegner
- c. Support: Beth McEwen
- d. Also present: Justin Pelkowski (ORCA), Deb Etheridge (SAIL), Leone Marx (SAIL), Tristan Knutson-Lombardo (SAIL)

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- a. Deb Etheridge and Tristan Knutson-Lombardo for SAIL - Introduced by Ibn, the group touched on a couple of Southeast Alaska Independent Living (Aging and disability resources center, and independent living resources). It is a consumer-driven organization with 51% of Staff and Board of Directors are people with disabilities. Work comes from a long line of disability rights activists. Direct services, but also advocates for change. Our mission is to inspire personal independence and accessible communities for everyone we serve. Today is the anniversary of the Olmstead Decision - a landmark supreme court ruling. Justin Pelkowski - ORCA - adaptive recreation arm. The biggest is the ski/snowboard program. Youth Employment in the Parks Program, partnering with the Zach Gordon Youth Center. Funded through DVR (Division of Vocational Rehabilitation). Ropes course at Eagle Valley Center. Anyone with any disability is welcomed and can and should participate. Leone Marx - worked with Developmental Disability Resource Services - waiver services to be out in the community and not in a center. Information referral, provide school support. Not direct, but if you need someone to help advocate for services, this is the place to go. Also helps those who qualify with mini-grants. The Aging and Disability Resource Center also helps with waivers, which may be geared towards physical disabilities. Deb Etheridge - Home and community based waivers are a vehicle that help people transition from a more restrictive center of care. The ADRC helps find not only what is available from the government, but also the community.

There is a Loan Center for items like shower chairs, wheelchairs, etc. Home assessments offered. If you have a disability or someone you know has a disability or they are aging, a great place to start is SAIL, and if they can't help, they can help find where you can get help. You don't have to have a diagnosis. If you consider yourself a person with a disability, you qualify for SAIL services. Before the Taxi Voucher program, there were no wheelchair accessible taxis in Southeast (Juneau) - Not served by paratransit and no access to 24 hours on demand. SAIL writes grants and works with Juneau taxis to get paralift vehicles. Increased use on cabs. Contract says they have to have at least one wheelchair accessible taxi on the roads at all times. The way that the Human Rights Commission could help is thus: what would be great is that if you wanted to operate a taxi company in Juneau, you are required to have ADA accessible taxis to operate in the city. If you want to serve the municipal airport, you are required to have ADA accessible transportation. Ride hailing services like Uber and Lyft and a huge push against regulations, which would hurt paratransit. They are replacing a taxi a year with the grant and are never able to catch up and get ahead of the two cabs that they contract to have on the roads.

- b. What are we going to do in the month of July- Take July off since we will not be able to meet Quorum during the month of July. We have agreed to meet on the 2nd Tuesday of August.
- c. Annual Report - Attached and completed during the meeting. Tentatively scheduled for Monday, July 12, 2021 at 6pm for the Human Resource Committee meeting.
- d. Infographics for JHRC Website- Make sure to find sources for attribution - Haifa - Beth asks for attribution to make sure the city can use the infographics.

#### IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- a. N/A

#### V. UPCOMING MEETING DATE

- a. Tentative Commission Meeting for August 10, 2021- 5pm - 6pm
- b. July 12, 2021 Human Resource Committee meeting at 6:00pm to speak with the Committee about the work of JHRC via the Annual Report.

#### VI. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Adjourned at 6:34pm