WASHINGTON STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

COMMISION MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2013 @ 10AM
SEATTLE OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS
SMITH CONFERENCE ROOM
810 THIRD AVENUE, SUITE 750
SEATTLE, WA 98104
MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners: Steve Hunt, Chair; Clarence Henderson, Commissioner; Charlene Strong, Commissioner; Deborah Lee, Commissioner; Shawn Murinko, Commissioner

Staff: Sharon Ortiz, Executive Director; Laura Skinner, Executive Assistant; Stacia Hollar, AAG; Idolina Reta, Specialist; Christina Higgins, Specialist.

OPENING AND WELCOME

Chair Hunt called the meeting to order at 10:06AM.

MINUTES

Commissioner Lee made motion to approve January 24, 2013 meeting minutes; Commissioner Henderson seconded; motion carried.

CASE CLOSURES

Commissioner Lee abstinates from cases Kume v. Colville Confederate Tribes, Bayraktaroglu v. Boeing, and Avra-Pascual v. Boeing.

Commissioner Murinko motions to approve case closures; Commissioner Henderson seconds; motion carried.

Commissioner Murinko abstains from case, Fraley v. WA ST DOT.

Commissioner Lee motions to approve closure; Commissioner Henderson seconds; motion carried.

PRESENTATION BY NAMI

Commissioner Murinko stated was not able to contact and re confirm for meeting; Eleanor Owen with the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill who was to conduct a presentation at 10:30AM. Speaker did not show up.
Commissioner Strong asked if speakers from Legal Voice could comment on rule making, David Ward and Erin Landon, Attorneys who were in attendance.

AAG Holler stated can speak about rule making process but not about the rule making issues.

Mr. Ward discussed legal issues for women; interested in LGBT issues and the rule making process; attended work shop last summer which was poorly attended; would like to be a part of the process.

Commissioner Murinko commented on the effectiveness of outreach to the public, stakeholders and to the LGBT community to better attend the rule making.

Director Ortiz stated the next step would be public hearings; already have skeleton set of rules, public can see these and give input.

AAG Holler suggested advertise with and explanation of what it is.

Commissioner Strong commented about writing articles.

**ED REPORT**

Director Ortiz spoke about legislative session and HB1024 service animal legislation; explained law and HB 1024.

Director Ortiz provided IT update, data base needs to up graded; personnel update, Kenia Rios, investigator transferred to Spokane office.

Commissioner Lee asked about accessing server from remote locations and how that would affect public disclosure requests and personal computers.

Commissioner Henderson stated he opens findings as a web page since there is no down loading to personal computer.

Possible presentation on IT and PD at the April 2013 Commission meeting.

Director Ortiz went over budget informed Commissioners to look over the hot sheet; AG’s office has asked for a significant $ amount back; in the past there has not been consistent AG representation; have 2 RC cases approved and in process of going to AG office for representation.

Director Ortiz stated IQ’s are now updated and on the web; commented housing inventory is low; attended various meetings and was interviewed by King 5 news regarding the service animal legislation.
COMMISSIONER REPORTING

Commissioner Henderson: Attended the African American Leadership Forum as a private citizen, possible connection for outreach; attended the Tacoma Human Rights Commission meeting and the Martin Luther King Jr. event; attended the legislative Ethnic reception.

Commissioner Strong: Spoke at Everett high school; met with woman who survived the Jewish Federation shooting regarding gun safety and control.

Chair Murynko: Met with Director Ortiz and King 5 news for interview regarding service animals.

Commissioner Lee: Nothing to report.

Chair Hunt: Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Hunt stated would like to discuss strategic planning at the May 2013 Commission meeting; send in what Commissioner’s would like to see accomplished 2 weeks prior to Laura Skinner for the meeting.

Director Ortiz mentioned Commissioner Allotment - spending amount.

Chair Hunt went over next 3 months Commission meeting locations; March 28, 2013 will be in Tacoma; April 17th and 18th will be in Yakima; May 23rd, 2013 will be in Olympia.

REMININDER

Lobbying Report Sheets are due to Laura Lindstrand by April 15, 2013.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioners, Director Ortiz, and AAG Hollar went into executive session at 11AM pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss with legal counsel potential litigation to which the Commission may be a party. Commissioner Hunt stated that the Executive Session was expected to last 20 minutes.

Laura Skinner informed Commissioners at 11:20AM the 20 minutes were up; went back into public session. Commissioner Hunt announced that the Executive Session was expected to last an additional 10 minutes.
Executive Session ended at 11:30AM.

Public Session reopens at 11:30AM.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:30AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Skinner
Commission Clerk