WASHINGTON STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

COMMISSION MEETING
JANUARY 24, 2013 @ 1:30PM
ROBERT DREWEL BLDG., 1ST FLOOR, PMR # 1&2
3000 ROCKEFELLER AVENUE
EVERETT, WA 98201
MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

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

Staff: Sharon Ortiz, Executive Director; Laura Skinner, Executive Assistant; Stacia Hollar, AAG.

Chair Hunt, Commissioner Henderson, and AAG Hollar attended meeting by phone.

OPENING AND WELCOME

Deborah Lee, Chair Pro Tem called the meeting to order at 1:30pm.

MINUTES

Commissioner Strong made motion to approve December 27, 2012 meeting minutes; Commissioner Murinko seconded; motion carried.

CASE CLOSURES

Commissioner Murinko made motion to approve case closures; Commissioner Strong seconded; motion carried.

ED REPORT

Director Ortiz discussed HB 1024 service animal legislation; had first hearing on January 16th, 2013; met with rental lobbyists, disability groups and the Washington Bar Association, submitted friendly amendments to both the house and senate bill; December 10th, 2012 did a lunch time presentation to the Dept. of Health for Human Rights Day and that evening we held the Vancouver Open House; on January 4th, 2013 Cheryl Strobert and I met with Snohomish County Officials to discuss office space; discussed budget, is in hold pattern; AG’s office want to reduce our AG funds due to us not using them lately, in discussion regarding this issue; January 17th, 2013 had quarterly Union Management meeting, topics included the performance standards (have been done for over a year,
waiting for approval), promotional opportunities and technology/ templates; January 21st, 2013 attended the Dr. Martin Luther King celebration at the Tacoma Convention Center.

Director Ortiz made announcement that Investigator David Hamilton will retire on January 31st, 2013; having a retirement party on January 30th, 2013 at 12pm in the Olympia office; extended invitation for Commissioners to attend.

Director Ortiz went over various meetings attended in December 2012 and January 2013.

COMMISSIONER REPORTING

**Commissioner Murinko:** Attended Director Ortiz's presentation on December 10th, 2012 at the Dept. of Health and the Vancouver Open House.

**Commissioner Strong:** Recently spoke at the University of Washington regarding global healthcare and LGBT, not as a Commissioner; have been busy speaking on behalf of the Marriage Equality Bill as a citizen; secured location for February 2013 Commission meeting.

**Chair Hunt:** Attended Vancouver Open House on December 10th, 2012; went to the seminar for Racial & Social Justice on December 13th and 14th, 2012; attended the Dr. Martin Luther King events in King County and Tacoma.

**Chair Pro Tem Lee:** Working with the Seattle School District regarding racial issues; Commission discussion around racial discrimination; Quinault Indian Tribe also has issues; Indian Civil Rights will be holding forum.

**Commissioner Henderson:** Secured location for the March Commission meeting.

Commissioners had brief discussion regarding gun rights and mental illness; cannot take stand as a Commission unless a hate crime.

AAG Hollar explained has to tie directly into HRC jurisdiction.

Commissioner’s discussed inviting the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill to our February 28th, 2013 Commission meeting to do a presentation; this will be an action item.

Commissioner’s would like to have a short agenda for the February 28th, 2013 Commission meeting then hold a public hearing on the sexual orientation/ gender identity regarding the rule making since the Marriage Equality Bill passed; will need a larger conference space; this will be an action item.

Commissioner Strong and Commissioner Murinko will discuss with Laura Lindstrand process for the meeting.
PUBLIC COMMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:23pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Skinner
Commission Clerk