

JULY 2, 2020 MINUTES

AMENDED HCHRC meeting via Zoom

I. Call to order: 5:01 pm.

II. Roll Call:

Present: Lelehnia DuBois, Jim Glover, Byrd Loctie, Larry Miller, Eddie Morgan, Erin Rowe.

Excused Absence:

Unexcused Absence: Carol Larsen, Steven Loreus, Mary Lyons, Jonnie Rush, Toby Vanlandingham

Visitors included: Vernon Price, Sean McLaughlin, Mo Harper-Desir

III. Agenda Adjustments:

In light of the fact that Secretary Steven Loreus has expressed a desire to resign from that position, it was requested that item XI-C be moved to item III for immediate consideration. M/ Loctie, S/ Rowe approved 5 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. At this point, Glover was appointed temporary Secretary to serve until a permanent Secretary can be elected at our August meeting.

IV. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting: June 4, 2020. Minutes were not available for the meeting and will be considered at the August 6, 2020 meeting.

V. Public Comment:

Vernon Price presented a letter relating to his work on the Behavioral Health Board and an MHSA letter which he hopes the Commission will endorse. Generally, the subject is mental health and the traumatic effects of homelessness. The letter will be distributed to Commissioners by email prior to the August meeting for their consideration.

VI. Commissioner Communications:

a. Email: None, **Postal Mail:** None, **Phone Calls:** None

b. All other announcements and communications.

Byrd Lochtie reported communicating with the McLean Foundation regarding the expiration of our existing grant. M/ Lochtie, S/ Glover. Approved 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain to ask for an extension closer to expiration date of present grant.

Glover noted he had received Black Lives Matter buttons that will be available each Monday from 9am-12 noon in the Grand Jury Office in the Courthouse on the first floor, next to the BOS offices.

c. Message Line: There was confirmation that Lochtie and Miller are taking calls for July, DuBois and Glover will take August calls, and Rowe and Miller will retrieve September calls. For this period, there were no calls to report.

VII. Treasurer's Report:

With the absence of Treasurer Lyons, there was no report. DuBois will contact the Treasurer to ensure payment for activation of Zoom account and other financial questions.

VIII. Committee Reports:

a. Correctional Facility Liaison Report: Morgan reported no activity, but plans to be in contact with the jail to check the status of conditions there. DuBois

noted she had been contacted regarding women inmates being deprived of services in the jail. She said she had encouraged them to produce a letter detailing their situation so we can follow up.

- b. Human Trafficking Fund Committee:** DuBois reported all grant monies had been distributed. She also noted we were awaiting confirmation of a bus ad that EPI had contracted from grant monies allotted.
- c. Sanctuary Ordinance Committee:** Glover reported no activity since last month's meeting, and noted that DuBois, as Chair of the commission, is now on this committee.
- d. Kindness ad hoc Committee:** DuBois encouraged continuing use of the hashtag, #HumboldtKindness and reported there was continuing discussion to link our Facebook efforts to our website.
- e. Racism-Cultural Awareness ad hoc Committee:** Due to inactivity on the part of this committee, DuBois announced a reconstituting of it with her as chair for August meeting and Glover as a new member, and said that she would reach out again to confirm the participation of Loreus, Vanlandingham, and Larsen. It was asked by visitors if non-commission community members were allowed to participate in the meetings and the answer was yes. The method of making meeting dates and times known is to be developed.
- f. Public Observer ad hoc Committee:** Morgan shared the developing vision for this group to be presented for approval of the Commission in August. Essentially, this group will observe civil protests and report to the BOS on activities they see that could be considered Human Rights violations worthy of attention. A definite mission statement will be developed. Miller shared his previous experience of this group during the "timber wars" demonstrations. Setting well understood criteria and standards, and providing training for observers were

considered essential.

- g. Digital Accessibility ad hoc Committee:** This committee is also developing a mission statement to guide its work. That will be ready for the August meeting. Also presented was a reading of the proposed bylaw amendment that would guide our technology practices moving forward and would keep them in sync with the Brown Act. Some discussion centered on how to apply this technology to greater public outreach both to participating Commissioners and to the general public. This amendment will be voted on in August after being presented tonight.

IX. Unfinished Business: Glover presented minor revisions to the 2019-2020 Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors, which is scheduled for July 28. Glover will prepare a summary of two to three paragraphs to be offered in person, with the full document submitted in advance for Supervisors to review.

M/Loctie, S/Rowe approved 6 yes, no 0, abstain 0 to adopt the report for submission.

Morgan detailed recommendations for continuing use of Zoom, since the current account being used would cease in mid July. M/S/P Glover, Loctie yes-6, no-0, abstain-0 to authorize monthly purchase of Zoom services for a six month period. Glover will use his card understanding he will be reimbursed for that period.

The cost is \$14.99 per month for a Pro account.

X. New Business: Sean McLaughlin made a presentation on behalf of Access Humboldt and its Human Rights mandate. He noted possible collaborative efforts could be made with the Commission and mutual support might be possible from the Humboldt Area Foundation. It was agreed (M/S/P Loctie, Morgan?? yes-6, no-0, abstain-0) to make this meeting and future meetings available on Access Humboldt TV and possibly Radio for broader outreach for the Commission. McLaughlin outlined

possible media campaign work that might benefit the Commission and the community. The digital accessibility ad hoc committee will consider possible additional collaboration with Access Humboldt.

Mo Harper-Desir spoke on behalf of Black Humboldt, describing what the organization is and what it is not, with special emphasis on its goal of creating safe spaces for BIPOC community members. While individuals may do political activism, that is not an organizational function of Black Humboldt. She noted we should consider racism as a public health issue and therefore a human rights issue. She noted the Commission could do more to increase its diversity and DuBois noted applicants are nominated by Supervisors. She urged all groups to fill our vacancies. Glover also answered a public question by noting that we do have two Native Americans and a black person on the Commission; they are just not present tonight.

XI. Future Agenda Items: Suggested or pending agenda items for the August 6 meeting include Proposed bylaws amendment ratification, Mission Statements from Observer and Digital Accessibility ad hoc committees, Further discussion of collaboration with Access Humboldt, consideration of the MHSA letter and actions by Behavioral Health Board.

XII. Adjournment:7:03 pm