

DRAFT MINUTES  
JUNEAU HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA  
DECEMBER 6, 2022

- I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: The meeting began at little after 5:00 pm.
  - a. Present: Emily Mesch, Haifa Foroughi, Lance Mitchell, Mary Wegner, and Paula Drake
  - b. Absent: None
  - c. Support: N/A
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes were approved by consensus.
  - a. Minutes of the November 15, 2022 Meeting
- III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS: No public was present.
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
  - a. Welcome New JHRC Member: We welcomed newest Commissioner Paula Drake by introducing ourselves and providing a brief overview of our work.
  - b. CBJ's perfect score on the Human Rights Campaign's Municipality Equality Index: Haifa will circulate an email to us and then she will send it to the Assembly to congratulate them on this accomplishment, and she will go and testify during public comments at an upcoming Assembly meeting.
  - c. Community Engagement Plan: We shared information with Paula about our Community Engagement project. Haifa and Mary have been working with CatapultEd and the International Institute for Restorative Practices (IIRP), and we now have a plan that is ready to share with the Assembly. The Assembly allocated \$5,000 so we can develop a plan to implement our Community Engagement project, and we will seek additional funding for next fiscal year to implement the plan. Mary will include a copy of the presentation that will be made to the Assembly when the minutes get sent out to see if there are questions or feedback.
  - d. Celebrating Black History Month 2023: Lance is writing a play that will be performed during Black History Month, and he will share his play with us in January. We were also talking about hosting a movie along with the play. Lance will work with Gold Town Nickelodeon to see what might be possible to get a movie to show. Questions exist about the extent to which UAS can still be involved in the project now that Mallory Nash is no longer a Commissioner. Haifa will work with some of her contacts at UAS to see what might still be possible.
  - e. Support Ukrainian Refugees Through a Fundraising Dance Performance: As a Commission, we are not allowed to engage in fund raising events, so the discussion moved to working with the Sponsor Circles in town who are supporting a Ukrainian family to see if they can host something. For now, this agenda item will be put on hold until after Black History Month.
  - f. Strategic Plan 2022-23: Not addressed at this meeting.
  - g. Town Hall Planning: Not addressed at this meeting.

- V. PUBLIC COMMENT: No public was present. Emily shared that the Valley Library has an exhibit titled *Americans and the Holocaust* that will be on display until December 20th. Emily also shared that Lisa Phu has a new podcast series called *Before Me* that discusses her family's escape from Cambodia during the Khmer Rouge. Emily recommended both to her fellow Commissioners.
- VI. UPCOMING MEETING DATES
- a. December 20, 2022 at 5:00 pm
  - b. January 3, 2023 at 5:00 pm
  - c. January 17, 2023 at 5:00 pm
- VII. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 pm.