



DRAFT Minutes for Regular Public Meeting, May 20th, 2022

- Meeting opened by Co-Chair Botzer at 10:06 a.m.
- Welcome Check ins, Land acknowledgement, welcome to Legislative Advisors, Housekeeping
 - Staff explained guidelines to virtual Commission meeting
 - Land acknowledgement
- Director Santiago turned meeting over to Co-Chair Botzer
- Co-Chair introductions and roll call
 - Commissioners present:
 - Commissioner Marsha Botzer, Jefferson County
 - Commissioner M. Kelly-Barroga, Pierce County
 - Commissioner Alvaro Figueroa, Spokane County
 - Commissioner Dustin Best, Okanogan County
 - Commissioner Tobi Hill-Meyer, Thurston County
 - Commissioner Matthew Landers, King County
 - Commissioner Everett Maroon, Walla Walla County
 - Commissioner Ranulfo Molina, Skagit County
 - Senator Claire Wilson, at-large
 - Commissioners excused:
 - Commissioner Agaiotupu Viena, King County
 - Commissioner Jac Archer, Spokane County
 - Commissioner Lars Erickson, King County
 - Commissioner Josette Ross, Pierce County
 - Commissioner Alicia Sojourner, Clark County
 - Commissioner Steven Sawyer, King County
 - Representative Nicole Macri, at-large
 - Representative Skyler Rude, at-large
 - Staff:
 - J. Manny Santiago, Executive Director
 - Tracey Carlos, Program Manager
- Acceptance of Minutes from March meeting
 - Commissioner Maroon presents a motion to accept the Minutes from the March meeting with no changes.
 - Commissioner Figueroa seconds the motion.
 - The Commission receives the Minutes from the March meeting in a unanimous vote.
- **Executive Director's report**, presented by Executive Director Manny Santiago and [available here](#). Some highlights from the report are:



- Director Santiago offered an update on the Pride Flag Raising ceremony on the Capitol Campus, scheduled for Tuesday, June 21st at noon.
- A related announcement, Washington state will raise the progress rainbow flag, with the intersex community symbol. This makes WA the first and only state in the nation to raise this version of the flag.
- The Commission held two events during the time prior to the public meeting:
 - Town hall in Spokane, welcoming a small group of constituents who came to share their challenges and the ideas they have to address them.
 - The Commission cohosted the statewide LGBTQ Executive Directors gathering on collaboration with WA State Nonprofits.
- Director Santiago attended the fundraising gala from Spokane Pride. This opportunity helped strengthen the relationships with partners on the eastern side of the state, and with LGBTQ groups from the Idaho panhandle.
- The staff of the Commission has continued to meet with constituents, especially with families of queer children who have experienced some form of discrimination within their schools. The Commission partners with the Office of the Education Ombuds to address these situations.
- Director Santiago has met with several cabinet members who are currently working on their respective agencies' plans to implement the Office of Equity strategic plan.
- The Commission provided feedback on curriculum being developed by the DOL to train real estate agents seeking renewal of their licenses.
- **Executive Committee:**
 - Co-Chair Botzer presented; committee met regularly.
 - The committee met with the Assistant Attorney General to learn more about the changes to the Public Meetings Act. The committee will continue to review the changes and ensuring the Commission follows the guidelines for public meetings.
 - The committee also discussed the different Pride events and how to support them, as well as the Pride Flag Raising ceremony planned for the Capitol Campus.
 - Continued work on committee restructuring.
- **Business & Economic Development Committee:**
 - No updates.
- **Vulnerable Communities Committee:**
 - Commissioner Hill-Meyer presented.
 - The Committee has been paying closer attention to the anti-LGBTQ legislation happening in other states. Committee members are looking into how the state can pass legislation to protect people who might come to WA to get support for their family members who need gender-affirming care.
- **Legislative Advisors:**
 - Sen. Claire Wilson presented



- Some Senators are looking into gaps that currently exist to protect people who might come from other states to seek services that are banned in other states.
- Coordinated efforts to ensure that legislation is comprehensive to protect LGBTQ folk who come from other states to seek services.
- Senator Wilson has participated of public demonstrations to show support for reproductive rights.
- Senator Wilson highlighted the importance of working in collaboration with school boards throughout the state to ensure that they understand rules and laws protecting LGBTQ students.

- New Business
 - ***Restructuring meetings and committees:***
 - Co-chair Botzer introduced three proposals for restructuring, results of the feedback received from Commissioners, and after work from the Restructuring Committee.
 - The Commissioners discuss the merits of each proposal. Director Santiago clarifies that the proposals have been presented to the AAG office for vetting.
 - Commissioner Figueroa motions to adopt Proposal #1, which reads: *“The WA State LGBTQ Commission will host daylong meetings every other month, and committees will meet during the regular public meetings of the Commission. The current active committees (Vulnerable Communities, and Economic & Business Development) will shift to this new format, and new committees will be proposed by the Executive Committee of the Commission with input from the Commissioners for consideration during a special meeting in June. The committees will meet every other month instead of monthly and will be formed according to the most pressing needs of the community during that period and be active for as long as they are needed.”*
 - Commissioner Kelly-Barroga seconds.
 - The motion is adopted unanimously.
 - ***Appointing Commissioners to Boards, Committees, Taskforces, and Workgroups***
 - Vice-Chair Kelly-Barroga introduced the discussion on appointing Commissioners to boards, taskforces, and workgroups to which the Commission is invited to participate. After discussing the role of Commissioners and staff on these different groups, the Commissioners come to consensus that Commissioners should be



appointed to certain boards, committees, taskforces, and workgroups

- *Process:* Commissioner Hill-Meyer presents the following motion to be adopted as policy of the Commission: “Upon request of LGBTQ Commission representation on committee or workgroup, the staff will present the opportunity to the plenary of the Commission during a regular public meeting and the Commissioners will select a representative from among them.”
- Commissioner Landers seconds the motion.
- The motion is adopted unanimously.
- **Appointing Commissioner to “America250” Committee**
 - **America250:** As part of the planning for commemorations established by the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, each U.S. state and territory is expected to create or designate an official entity (a “state 250th commission”) to organize their state’s planning and programming for the Semiquincentennial, or 250th anniversary. This past legislative session, Washington State established a semiquincentennial committee via Senate Bill 5756. This committee will coordinate and provide guidance for Washington’s official observance of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, as marked by the Declaration of Independence in 1776.
 - Commissioner Figueroa volunteers to serve as LGBTQ Commission representative on the American 250 committee. With no other nominations and no opposition, the Commission appoints Commissioner Figueroa to the America250 Committee.
- **Public comment**
 - No public comments were received during this public meeting.
- **Announcements:**
 - Pride Flag Raising Ceremony on the Capitol Campus scheduled for Tuesday, June 21st at 12:15 p.m.
 - Commission retreat to follow Pride Flag Raising Ceremony on Tuesday, June 21st from 2-6pm.
- **Meeting Adjourn**
 - Commissioner Best moves that the May meeting of the Commission be adjourned. Commissioner Landers seconds.
 - With no objections, Vice-Chair Kelly-Barroga adjourns the meeting at 12:08 p.m.