



WASHINGTON STATE
LGBTQ
COMMISSION

Public Meeting

September 20th, 10:00 am

- Welcome, technology troubleshooting, and check-ins
- Meeting called to order by Vice-Chair Kelly-Barroga at 10:10 a.m.
- Co-Chair asked for roll call
 - Commissioners present:
 - Commissioner Dustin Best, Okanogan County
 - Commissioner Alvaro Figueroa, Spokane County
 - Commissioner Nick Franco, Spokane County
 - Commissioner M. Kelly-Barroga, Grays Harbor County
 - Commissioner Tobi Hill-Meyer, Thurston County
 - Commissioner Mathew Landers, King County
 - Commissioner Everett Maroon, Walla Walla County
 - Commissioner Leiyomi Preciado, Kitsap County
 - Commissioner Jason Victor Serinus, Jefferson County
 - Commissioner Alicia Sojourner, Clark County
 - Senator Claire Wilson, at-large
 - Commissioners Excused:
 - Commissioner Ebo Barton, King County
 - Commissioner Abigayle Coleman, Clark County
 - Commissioner Lars Erickson, King County
 - Commissioner Steven Sawyer, King County
 - Representative Nicole Macri, at-large
 - Representative Skyler Rude, at-large
 - Unexcused Absences:
 - Commissioner Ranulfo Molina, Skagit County
 - Staff:
 - J. Manny Santiago, Executive Director
 - Tracey Carlos, Program Manager
 - Sawyer Tuttle, Executive Assistant
- Land acknowledgement, Housekeeping
- Adoption of Agenda for September Meeting
 - Commissioner Franco presents a motion to adopt the agenda for the September meeting.
 - Commissioner Figueroa seconds the motion.
 - The Commission adopts the agenda with no changes.
- Acceptance of Minutes from July Meeting

- Commissioner Figueroa presents a motion to receive the Minutes from the July public meeting.
- Commissioner Franco seconds the motion.
- The Commission receives the Minutes with no changes.
- **Reports:**
 - **Executive Director's report**, see attached report created by J. Manny Santiago.
 - **Executive Committee:**
 - Vice-Chair Figueroa presented: nothing to report in addition to regular meetings and looking forward to working with the LGBTQ Youth Advisory Taskforce.
 - **Economic and Business Development Committee:** Commissioner Landers updates the Commission on certification work and offers gratitude to Director Santiago for working on the Decision Package for OMBWE's budget to expand certification.
 - **America 250 Committee:** Commissioner Figueroa presented the report. No updates since the last meeting.
 - **Council on Health Disparities:** Commissioner Hill-Meyer presents the report. The Council will be putting together health impact reviews. These can be reviews of legislation when a legislator requests it, during session these can be a quick turnaround. The statute that established the Council will be amended to include the LGBTQ Commission as a voting member. The Council will also be changing the name to Governor's Council on Health, Justice and Equity, a name suggested by Commissioner Hill-Meyer.
 - **Poverty Reduction Group:** Director Santiago updates about Commissioners Barton and Sawyer being our official representatives, with Commissioner Barton being the primary representative. At this time, the two Commissioners will be onboarded by staff of the group.
 - **Legislative Advisors:**
 - Sen. Claire Wilson offered an update on community concerns and plans for 2024 legislative session, including:
 - The possibility of working on certification for small businesses owned by disabled people.
 - The possibility of doing a joint summit for youth advisory boards once the LGBTQ Youth Advisory Board is established.
 - The Senator shares that there is a lot of real interest in serving the trans community, not only in youth space but in corrections spaces.
 - Updates about the Department of Corrections creating and working on gender responsive care and risk assessment tools.

- The inclusive curricula bill will be reintroduced this short session. This bill was developed by students in WA.
 - Last year, the legislature, passed a bill around student information and public records, it allows school districts to redact information regarding identification that might put students in harm.
 - Planning on bringing back education law non-compliance bill again, these addresses when school districts blatantly disregard state law.
 - Public schools are the only place where the only qualifier is age to get support. We need to continue to serve all our young scholars. Holding back money will just impact scholars.
- **Commissioner Serinus:** interested in establishing an elder committee. He also shares his outreach efforts to his local community as well as service organizations serving older 2SLGBTQIA people. Commissioner Maroon points out the challenges that people with dementia face, especially trans and gender non-conforming elders.
 - **Commissioner Figueroa:** A Pride crosswalk in Spokane was vandalized in front of Odyssey which caters to LGBTQ youth. Although a traumatic experience, the community has shown up to support.
 - **Commissioner Hill-Meyer:** Shares about conversations at the Association of WA Cities where issues about pushback to Pride celebrations and flag raising are being discussed. Suggests that the Commission can draft guidelines for cities and towns on these issues.
 - **Commissioner Best:** Met with Two-Spirit and Indigiqueer groups of Spokane, they are excited the Commission wants to work with them. He is currently not clear on whether the groups want a committee within the Commission, will continue to work with them.
 - **Commissioner Coleman:** Director Santiago shares that Commissioner Coleman has continued engaging the La Center school district and has requested a meeting with the superintendent. Commissioner Coleman explained the role that the commission can serve as support.
 - **Commissioner Landers:** In October will be going to several cities in Europe to talk with leaders, some LGBTQ leaders – 2 groups in Bulgaria, organizations in Madrid and potentially Munich. Some of these groups have expressed an interest in speaking with the Commission as a whole.
 - **Commissioner Kelly-Barroga:** Shares updates about a developing situation between Oasis Youth Center and PCAF and how this might impact 2SLGBTQIA youth in Pierce County.
 - **Commissioner Preciado:** Shares that Kitsap County’s chapter of the hate-group “Moms for Liberty” is very active and have been sharing t-shirts saying there are

only 2 genders and these are being worn by students. The School Board and Superintendent hired an investigator and had a bit of a murky conclusion. Hoping to seek more clarification.

- **Budget and Legislative Priorities Update**

- Director Santiago offered an update on the budget requests and on the legislative work of the Commission. At the moment, groups are submitting bids for the comprehensive survey. Director Santiago asks the Commission to appoint two Commissioners to help rate the bids.
- Commissioner Figueroa makes a motion to nominate Commissioner Hill-Meyer and Commissioner Serinus to serve as Proposal Evaluator. Commissioner Kelly-Barroga and Commissioner Maroon will serve as secondary members if there is a tie in ratings on the first round. Commissioner Franco seconds the motion. The motion passes with no objections.

- **Action:**

- The Commissioners have time to review and revise a draft of a Values Statement.
- Commissioner Figueroa presents the motion to adopt the following Values Statement:
 - As public servants committed to advancing equity and fostering liberation for all 2SLGBTQIA+ people, we embrace humility, compassion, diversity, collaboration, respect, and joy in our work. We pledge to honor public involvement, community accessibility, and to listen and proactively center the needs of the most marginalized members of our community.
- Commissioner Franco seconds the motion.
- With two abstentions, the motion passes and the statement is adopted.

- **Discussion**

- The Commissioners have an open discussion on the issues that are important to keep in mind as the next legislative session approaches. (Unedited notes about the discussion are available for the Commissioners and the public to review upon request.)

- **Other Business**

- **Community Groups Presentations**

- The Commission welcomed the following community groups and representatives to present their projects and their work:
 - Partners in Prevention Education – Director Charlia Messinger presented
 - Policy Office – Dontae Payne, Senior Policy Advisor for Civil Rights and Racial Justice, presented.

- **Public Comment**

- The Commission did not receive any public comments.

- **Adjournment**

- Commissioner Serinus presents a motion to adjourn the September public meeting of the LGBTQ Commission.
- Commissioner Franco seconds the motion.
- The Commission unanimously votes to adjourn the September public meeting.
- Co-Chair Kelly-Barroga adjourns the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

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