

Kitsap County Council for Human Rights MINUTES

Tuesday, February 16, 2021, 6:30-8 PM

Held via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82687224410>
Meeting ID: 826 8722 4410 By phone, call 253-215-8782

The **Mission of the Kitsap County Council for Human Rights** is twofold:

1. To advise county government and Kitsap County community on issues related to discrimination, violence and harassment based on race or national origin, religion, age, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, disability, or economic status, and
2. To promote equitable treatment of all people and reduce prejudice through education, resource referrals, and advocacy.

Attendance: P – present T – present by technology E – absent excused U – absent unexcused

| ? | Name | Position* | ? | Name | Position* |
|---|-------------------------|-----------|---|------------------------|---------------|
| P | Reba Harris | D1 – P1 | P | Heather Moritz | D3 – P1 |
| P | Erin Lanum | D1 – P2 | P | Darrell Thomas | D3 – P2 |
| P | Dionne Deschenne, Chair | D1 – P3 | E | Mollie Moisan | D3 – P3 |
| P | Jim Cash | D1 – P4 | P | Zana Gearllach | D3 – P4 |
| E | Brooke Jackson | D2 – P1 | | Vacant | At-large |
| E | Janae Jenkins | D2 – P2 | P | Marcie Mathis | At-large |
| P | Carrie La Jeunesse | D2 – P3 | P | Susie Beil, Vice Chair | At-large |
| P | Christina Barone | D2 – P4 | P | Rebecca Pirtle | County Admin. |

*Note on Positions: Commissioner for District 1 Rob Gelder; District 2 Charlotte Garrido; District 3 Ed Wolfe.

Guests in attendance: n/a

- 1) **Called to Order** at 6:32 PM
- 2) **Group Agreements** read by Dionne (see attachment).
- 3) **Approve Agenda** – Zana motioned, Jim seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.
- 4) **Land Acknowledgement Statement** read by Carrie (see attachment).
- 5) **Centering moment** provided by Susie. March centering moment will be led by Jim
- 6) **Introductions** – No guests were present. Council Members introduced themselves, including four newly appointed members: Christina Barone, Darrell Thomas, Erin Lanum, and Reba Harris.
- 7) **Approval of Minutes** from previous meeting of January 19, 2021. Jim motioned to approve without revision. Marcie seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.
- 8) **Guest comments or announcements** – No guests present. Council discussed the frequency of guests attending and advised new council members that all KCCHR meetings are open to the public. Information is available for monthly meetings on the KCCHR website. All were encouraged to invite and share the link.
- 9) **Nominations for Secretary** – Dionne nominated Erin Lanum for the position of Secretary of the KCCHR for 2021. Erin accepted the nomination. Jim seconded the nomination. Erin was unanimously elected Secretary.
- 10) **Committees** – The committees for 2021 will remain Human Rights Report; Outreach; and Conference. Council members volunteered for the committees they wish to serve on:

| Report | Outreach | Conference |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Dionne, Chair | Carrie, Co-Chair | Susie |
| Christina | Dionne, Co-Chair | Brooke (will confirm) |
| Erin | Erin | Darrell |
| Janae (will confirm) | Mollie (will confirm) | Heather |
| Marcie | Zana | |
| Reba | | Chair TBD |

The chairs of each committee will email committee members to schedule initial meetings.

11) Connecting with other human rights-related organizations and councils (per 2021 Work Plan) – Council discussed ways to connect and collaborate with other organizations doing similar work within the County. Rebecca will send existing list of known orgs to the full Council, to add to and to note any that Councilors are already involved with or willing to build a relationship with. We will review that information at the March meeting and identify next steps.

The potential for using social media to improve our efficiency and communication was discussed. If we have members helping to manage our social media presence, we could play a great role in informing the public of the work being done in the County and could ourselves be better informed about the work of partner organizations. The Outreach Committee will make social media use part of their consideration and work this year. Carrie noted that she would need a Co-Chair in order to add that to the work of the committee. Dionne volunteered to serve in that role.

The potential use of forums to help with this was also discussed. The Council members decided not to form a separate committee to oversee forum hosting. Instead, members will come to the March meeting with ideas for potential forum topics and from those we will select a few to host in 2021. We need to determine: how forums will be hosted given current challenges for in-person meetings; associated costs; and discussion on forum topics and design. Darrell is a restorative circle facilitator and offered to serve in that role, if we wish to use that model for some of our forums. A former council member developed a guide for forum hosting, which Rebecca will send to the group to assist the process.

12) **New Business** - none

13) **Check-ins** - These were skipped as the long introduction portion had already allowed for this.

14) **Next meeting** - 6:30 PM on Tuesday, March 16, via Zoom.

15) **Adjourned** at 7:59 PM.

16) Minutes submitted by Secretary, Erin Lanum

ATTACHMENTS:

Land Acknowledgement Statement

The graphic features a blue background with a white geometric pattern at the top and bottom. The central text is in a dark blue font. Below the title, there is a quote in black text and a paragraph in black text. At the bottom, there is a photograph of a canoe with rowers on a body of water, with the text 'SUQUAMISH TRIBE' overlaid in white. A small bird is flying in the upper right of the quote area.

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PLACE OF THE CLEAR SALT WATER

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

“Every part of this soil is sacred in the estimation of my people. Every hillside, every valley, every plain and grove, has been hallowed by some sad or happy event in days long vanished.”

Chief Seattle 1854

We would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is within the aboriginal territory of the suq^wabš “People of Clear Salt Water” (Suquamish People). Expert fisherman, canoe builders and basket weavers, the suq^wabš live in harmony with the lands and waterways along Washington’s Central Salish Sea as they have for thousands of years. Here, the suq^wabš live and protect the land and waters of their ancestors for future generations as promised by the Point Elliot Treaty of 1855.

SUQUAMISH TRIBE

Photo by Jon Anderson

Group Agreements

(From January 2019 Annual Retreat)

- Prevent cell phone interference with the meeting. If you can turn it off or silent it, that's great. If you need to keep it on, do so, of course. Just try to mitigate impact on the meeting.
- One speaker at a time, please. This helps make sure everyone can hear and be heard.
- Share the air. Be mindful of time. Both listen and speak with intention to understand.
- Allow for organic conversation. Generative dialogue is part of our collective process, too.
- Allow for quiet, too. Moments of silence can help us to reflect and gain understanding.
- Model and support self-care. Advocate for your and others authentic participation. Ask for clarification (words, concepts, etc.) as needed. Move around, take a break, get a drink, etc.
- Respect our collective and the individuals in it. There are multiple perspectives, world views, and truths present among us. Also, we have a shared accountability to our KCCHR Mission.
- Learn from history and be open to possibilities. Acknowledge past trends of KCCHR. Also, be open to new ideas, skills, and energy coming to KCCHR. Allow for group development.