

# Kitsap County Council for Human Rights

## MINUTES

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

Held via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88151688423?pwd=VEJQZFplbmNmTGRKTkdhWUFiWkg2QT09>

Meeting ID: 881 5168 8423 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*
E	Reba Harris	D1 – P1	E	Heather Moritz	D3 – P1
T	Erin Lanum, <i>Secretary</i>	D1 – P2	T	Darrell Thomas	D3 – P2
T	Dionne Deschenne, <i>Chair</i>	D1 – P3	T	Mollie Moisan	D3 – P3
T	Jim Cash	D1 – P4	T	Zana Gearllach	D3 – P4
	Vacant	D2 – P1		Vacant	At-large
T	Janae Jenkins	D2 – P2	T	Marcie Mathis	At-large
T	Carrie La Jeunesse	D2 – P3	T	Susie Beil, <i>Vice Chair</i>	At-large
T	Christina Barone	D2 – P4	T	Rebecca Pirtle	County Admin.

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

**Guests in attendance:** Lisa Greg, Indianola WA

**1) Meeting was Called to Order @ 6:31pm**

**2) Group Agreements** – acknowledged and skipped reading

**3) Approve Agenda**

Carrie motioned, Zana seconded, passed unanimously.

**4) Land Acknowledgement Statement** read by Darrell

**5) Centering moment** provided by Jim, read poem “Invictus” by Henley

- Carrie will offer centering moment for April 2021 meeting

**6) Introductions** – Council Members and Guests

Name, where we live, fun thing we did from last week

**7) Approval of Minutes** from previous meeting of February 16, 2021

Not considered, will be considered at April meeting.

**8) Guest comments or announcements** (three minutes each)

Rebecca: 1) Been working with Puget Sound Regional Council on equity work and proposed hosting them at one of the KCCHR council meetings, for ~30 minutes during an upcoming KCCHR meeting, to share info about regional transportation planning and conduct a survey to gather additional feedback. Their goal is to reach adults over 65yo, youth 15-17, low-income, BIPOC, veterans, alter-abled, ESL, and others, for input. 2) Check CHR FB page as she has been sharing many events there, to attend and/or share

**9) Committee Reports**

Human Rights Report Committee- no report, haven’t met yet. Still dialing in reoccurring meeting date and time.

Conference Committee- At meeting, discussed where, what, and how’s of the 2021 Conference. Rebecca checked in on venues for possible in-person Conference but may need to be Zoom only depending on pandemic trajectory. Working on Conference theme ideas (e.g. human trafficking). Beginning to brainstorm on ways to make Conference more accessible to working people, students, with

daytime commitments. Exploring moving Conference to Saturday and partnering with schools to assist in transporting students to Conference (if held in-person). Zoom increases accessibility. Next meeting schedule for April 6<sup>th</sup>. Rebecca encouraged others to join Conference Committee as it is currently a bit “thin”.

Outreach Committee-Carrie expressed that Outreach feels thin as well. First meeting is scheduled for March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Question: Do we want written reports for committee meetings? Answer: No, verbal is sufficient and notes are optional

**10) Forum Planning** – Discussed frequency, platform, content, creation, and execution of forums. Consider updating forum-selecting guidelines created by Council in 2000. Previous Council goals were to offer quarterly forums. Frequency of forums will depend on individual Councilors’ passions, schedules/ bandwidth, and willingness to lead effort. Forum design can be determined by the Lead. Other option is to co-sponsor events offered by other Kitsap Co. organizations- builds capacity and partnerships. List of orgs will be sent out this week to potentially partner with- please add to, update contact info, and make notes of orgs you are already connected with. Zoom is likely best platform for 2021 forums due to pandemic. Discussed hosting Kitsap SURJ presentation (same one from March 10<sup>th</sup> KCAC meeting) on history of racism/white supremacy groups in US, human rights violations in Kitsap, and more, as one of the forums KCCHR offers. Considering scheduling during an upcoming KCCHR meeting slot. Forums should allow for a 30-minute Q&A period post-presentation. Another potential forum is on Land Acknowledgements (discussed later in meeting). Please email forum topics to Chair by March 28<sup>th</sup>.

**11) Connecting with other human rights-related organizations and councils** (per 2021 Work Plan)  
Restatement of making/updating list of orgs and Councilors already connected to an org can alert Council of events or other important information – Dionne will send out old list this week. Goal: To have all Councilors interact with other organizations to build relationships and be aware of efforts.

## **12) New Business**

- Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council Retreat report – meeting RE: land use and transportation planning and policy that will increase social/economic/racial equity w/in Kitsap. No POC present on panel and insufficient time to have meaningful conversations. Suquamish Chairman was present and offered valuable groundwork at start of retreat. Policies were written before the meeting and meager 10-minute feedback sessions per portion – wholly unsuccessful. Debrief scheduled with organizing agency, Triangle Associates, on March 30<sup>th</sup>. Consideration of panelists, including KCCHR Chair, in writing joint letter to KRCC’s Board sharing observations and concerns.
- Land acknowledgements – Discussed varied viewpoints among Indigenous people RE: land acknowledgements (important, overdue, performative, what now?, more thought/intention surrounding, etc.) and inviting some local tribal representatives (approved by their Tribal Councils) to an upcoming KCCHR meeting to discuss topic. May also get other orgs interested or can record for other orgs to show/share. Chris, Darrell, and Janae will spearhead work on Land Acknowledgment Forum development. Instructed to start reaching out to Chairmen of Suquamish and Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribes to gain proper guidance (be respectful of leadership). Forum dates for this and SURJ presentation forum suggested for May/June and August/Sept. Chair will reach out to get dates for SURJ forum.

**13) Check-ins** – chose to pass

**14) Next meeting:** 6:30 PM on Tuesday, April 20, via Zoom

15) Adjourned at 8:02pm

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 is a quote in black text, followed by a paragraph of text in black. At the bottom, there is a silhouette of a canoe with a person and a horse, set against a sunset background. The text 'SUQUAMISH TRIBE' is written in large white letters across the bottom of the image. A small credit 'Photo by Jon Anderson' is visible in the bottom right corner.

**dx<sup>w</sup>səq<sup>w</sup>əb**  
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<sup>w</sup>abš “People of Clear Salt Water” (Suquamish People). Expert fisherman, canoe builders and basket weavers, the suq<sup>w</sup>abš live in harmony with the lands and waterways along Washington’s Central Salish Sea as they have for thousands of years. Here, the suq<sup>w</sup>abš 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.