

# Kitsap County Council for Human Rights MINUTES

Tuesday, February 15, 2022, 6:30-8 PM Meeting

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86039566803> Meeting ID: 860 3956 6803 By phone: 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	Annie Forsman Adams	D1 – P1	P	Heather Moritz	D3 – P1
P	Erin Lanum, <i>Secretary</i>	D1 – P2	E	Darrell Thomas	D3 – P2
E	Dionne Deschenne, <i>Chair</i>	D1 – P3	P	Elizabeth Holmes	D3 – P3
P	Judy Friesem	D1 – P4	P	Marlaina Simmons	D3 – P4
P	Beth Barron	D2 – P1		Vacant	At-large
	Vacant	D2 – P2		Vacant	At-large
	Vacant	D2 – P3	P	Susie Beil, <i>Vice Chair</i>	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: Gregg Nebel**

- 1) **Call to Order** – Vice Chair Susie Beil called to order at 6:32pm and presided over meeting in Chair's absence.
- 2) **Approve Agenda** – Heather motioned to approve Agenda as written, Erin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- 3) **Land Acknowledgement Statement** – Read by Chris
- 4) **Group Agreements - as revised January 2022** – Councilors took turns reading a group agreement and the revisions from January were appreciated.
- 5) **Centering moment - provided by Heather** – “Planet” by Catherine Pierce was read by Heather.
- 6) **Approval of Minutes from previous meeting - January 2022 Annual Retreat** – Chris motioned, Beth seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 7) **New Member introductions** –  
 Marlaina Simmons – Works for Kitsap Strong and is Co-Lead for Peninsula’s Early Childhood Coalition. She has been a Kitsap resident almost consecutively since 1994 and feels the work on the KCCHR aligns with her job but is a personal endeavor. She is extremely passionate about and looking forward to volunteering her time to make a difference in the community.  
 Judy Friesem – Judy is a past member of the Council, now returning to serve again. A daughter of refugees and holocaust survivors, she has worked on intergenerational and intercultural mediation nationally and abroad and is currently involved with the Dispute Resolution Center of Kitsap. Judy is a creative person, and grew up in NYC in the barrios, and feel strongly that diversity is life – “thinking differently with the same intention” and “bringing light into dark places” informs her life and will inform her work on the KCCHR. She also works in the hospice setting as a harp player.
- 8) **Guest introductions, comments, or announcements (three minutes each)** –  
 Gregg Nebel (pronounced KNEE – BULL) is retired and a resident of Poulsbo. He is hoping to become a member of the KCCHR soon. He worked as a leader of a program that looked after environmental compliance in supply chains around the world and protections of worker’s rights, in vulnerable factory/workshop environments on the global scale.
- 9) **Old Business** -
  - o **2022 Work Plan**
    - **Committee Planning and Work Group formation as needed (Bylaw review, Forum planning, Community Survey):** The decision was made to discuss and/or review the bylaws at a later meeting when more new members are present, and we can all get a chance to examine them together. Most of the time in this section was spent on providing descriptions and purposes of the committees that Councilors can join if they choose. One can serve on none or all of them. All

Councilors present proceeded to sign up for committees, of which documentation will be provided soon on 2022 committee members and other useful information for committee work. Committee meeting dates/times and determination of committee Chairs will be addressed soon. The Community Survey was discussed. It was agreed that this is a time and labor intensive endeavor, but Judy suggested that it could be modified to some other form in order to gain community feedback and not be as intensive as a full-on survey. The Community Survey could be taken up by a committee, a separate task force could undertake it, or we could leave it to the whole Council to collaborate on, therefore, it was decided to retain its position on the 2022 Work Plan.

Beth motioned to approve the 2022 Work Plan as it was written, Chris seconded, and the motion carried with unanimous approval.

- Timeline maintenance: will be conducted by the Reports Committee.
- **Recruiting** – The choice was made to pass on discussing recruiting due to there being plenty of applicants at this time and a reduced need to focus on recruitment efforts.
- **Template for use when issuing statements** – Chris explained the creation and purpose of the template for use in creating timely responses to human rights violations around the County.
- **Statement RE Homeless Shelter in Port Orchard** – Beth explained the intent and that this statement is still not done. We will still do it, but the urgency has reduced because the shelter project is shifting, and Beth needs more background information first.

10) **New Business**

- **KPHD Presentation at future meeting RE their Statement declaring racism a public health crisis** – KPHD contacted Rebecca to see if they can come and present to the Council during one of the regularly scheduled meetings in March, April, or May and the Councilors present agreed so Jessica Guidry will be contacted, and a date will be set.
- **Statement RE racism related incidents (e.g., graffiti at NKHS, along roads, swastika incident on Bainbridge, racism and Kingston High basketball game)** – Heather shared that her Olympic HS student says these sorts of incidents are happening more than are publicized and we need to support the youth during this time. It was discussed and agreed that the Communications and Outreach Committee will take the baton on utilizing the statement template and drafting this and future statements so the Council can aim for timely responses and outreach to the community.

Beth motioned to approve the template for use in drafting Council statements for quick responses and that can be emailed for approval of the final draft. Judy seconded. The motion carried with unanimous consent.

11) **Next meeting: March 15, 2022 at 6:30 PM**

12) **Adjourned at 8:05pm**

Meeting Minutes were prepared by the Secretary, Erin Lanum