



COMMUNITY AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

CITY OF EL PASO FAIR HOUSING TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES August 14, 2018

1. A meeting of the Fair Housing Task Force was held at Thorman Conference Room, 801 Texas Ave., and was called to order at 4:03 p.m. by Sandra Pellegrini, Fair Housing Officer.

Board Member	Present	Absent
Jonathan Macias	X	
Bill Coon	X	
Rosa Estrada	X	
Kimberly Cook-McDaniel	X	
Bill Schlesinger	X	
Larry Garcia	X	
Sergio Vasquez	X	
Marc A. Salazar - Alt	X	
Raimundo Sarabia - Alt	X	
Luis Yañez - Alt	X	

City staff present: Art Rubio and Sandra Pellegrini.

Public present: List of attendees available upon request.

2. Introduction of Fair Housing Task Force Members and City Staff.

Item number 5 was moved to the front in order to elect a Chair and Vice-chair prior to proceeding with this meeting.

3. Election of Chair and Vice Chair for the Fair Housing Task Force (previously item #5 on the Agenda).

Task Force members were advised of current regular and alternate member vacancies and talked about selecting a Chair and Vice-chair at this meeting or wait for the two remaining regular member vacancies to be filled prior to making a selection.

Chair nomination:

Motion made by Bill Coon and seconded by Raimundo Sarabia to nominate a Chair and Vice-chair for the Task Force at today's meeting.

Ayes: Jonathan Macias, Bill Coon, Rosa Estrada, Kimberly Cook-McDaniel, Bill Schlesinger, Larry Garcia, Sergio Vasquez, Marc Salazar and Raimundo Sarabia.

Nays: None

Motion made by Bill Schlesinger and seconded by Rosa Estrada to nominate Kimberly Cook-McDaniel to serve as Chair, Ms. Cook-McDaniel accepted the nomination.

Motion made by Raimundo Sarabia and seconded by Sergio Vasquez to nominate Larry Garcia to serve as Chair, Mr. Garcia declined the nomination.

Motion made by Raimundo Sarabia and seconded by Larry Garcia to nominate Sergio Vasquez to serve as Chair, Mr. Vasquez declined the nomination.

Motion made by Raimundo Sarabia to nominate Luis Yañez to serve as Chair. Sandra Pellegrini advised that only regular members can be appointed to serve as Chair and Vice-Chair.

Vote was taken by Task Force members to accept nomination of Kimberly Cook-McDaniel to serve as Chair for the Fair Housing Task Force.

Ayes: Jonathan Macias, Bill Coon, Rosa Estrada, Kimberly Cook-McDaniel, Bill Schlesinger, Larry Garcia, Sergio Vasquez, Marc Salazar and Raimundo Sarabia.

Nays: None

Vice Chair nomination:

Motion made by Bill Schlesinger and seconded by Sergio Vasquez to nominate Larry Garcia to serve as Vice Chair, Mr. Garcia accepted the nomination.

Motion made by Kimberly Cook-McDaniel and seconded by Jonathan Macias to nominate Rosa Estrada to serve as Vice-chair, Ms. Estrada accepted the nomination.

Vote was taken by Task Force members to appoint the Vice Chair for the Fair Housing Task Force. Five members voted to nominate Mr. Garcia and two members voted to nominate Ms. Estrada. Mr. Garcia accepted to serve as Vice Chair for the Task Force.

4. Ethics and Sexual Harassment Training Requirements.

Task Force members were informed of the requirement to attend both Ethics and Sexual Harassment prevention training by the City within 90 days of appointment. Training dates and times will be provided to members, staff will keep track of training and will send reminders will be sent as required. Training is required for both regular and alternate members.

5. Open Meetings Act Training Requirements.

Task Force members were informed of the requirement to take this training as required by the state. Members were advised to provide a certificate once training is completed.

6. Fair Housing Task Force Excused Absences

Task Force members discussed the need to set a policy to define excused/unexcused absences and a process to keep track of members' absences. A draft will be presented at the next meeting for discussion and vote. Task Force members were advised of the process to be followed to call a meeting, confirm quorum and how alternates will be informed if their attendance will be required to have a quorum.

7. Review and Approval of Minutes Dated March 20, 2018.

Motion made by Bill Schlesinger and seconded by Sergio Vasquez to approve the March 20, 2018 minutes as is.

Ayes: Jonathan Macias, Bill Coon, Rosa Estrada, Kimberly Cook-McDaniel, Bill Schlesinger, Larry Garcia, Sergio Vasquez, Marc Salazar and Raimundo Sarabia.

Nays: None

8. Review of Fair Housing Task Force Ordinance

Task Force members and staff reviewed the changes made to the Fair Housing Task Force Ordinance which include: composition, members' terms of service, addition of alternate members and elimination of ex-officio members, addition of a Vice Chair, option to form sub-committees and additions made to the duties of the Task Force.

9. Update on Fair Housing Education and Outreach Activities – Project Vida

Irma Avila from Project Vida provided Task Force members with an update on public outreach and fair housing education activities carried up to date by the agency. Committee members discussed different options to promote Fair Housing among the community, including social media, PSAs, Web, etc.

10. Public Comment

No public comment was received at this meeting.

11. Discussion and Approval of Meeting Schedule

Task Force members discussed the possibility to establish a meeting schedule, desired frequency of the meetings and how to increase public attendance in the future. The Task Force has considered to set goals to be accomplished and schedule future meetings based the foreseeable needs of the Task Force. It was suggested to meet once a month. Task Force members agreed to discuss objectives at the next meeting and establish a work agenda.

Motion made by Raimundo Sarabia and seconded by Bill Schlesinger to review the current impediments, identify objectives and goals to be accomplished, and continue discussion of a meeting schedule based on those goals at the next Task Force meeting.

Ayes: Jonathan Macias, Bill Coon, Rosa Estrada, Kimberly Cook-McDaniel, Bill Schlesinger, Larry Garcia, Sergio Vasquez, Marc Salazar and Raimundo Sarabia.

Nays: None

Motion made by Bill Coon and seconded by Larry Garcia to set the next meeting date for September 11, 2018 at 4:00 pm.

All in favor

12. Meeting was adjourned at 5:18 pm.

Prepared by: Sandra Pellegrini