

TO: Colorado Springs City Council

FROM: Colorado Springs Human Relations Commission

RE: Year in Review, April 1, 2015- March 30, 2016

Commissioners: The HRC has positions for 9 commissioners and 3 alternates. Commissioners also serve on one of three sub-committees: Education, Media and Government.

This list of commissioners is a result of the annual elections in March 2015:

Anja Wynne, Chair
James Chaney, Co-Chair
Di Graski, Treasurer
Teresa Hill, Secretary
Bill Chancey
Christine Davidson
Brenda Dukart
Karla Heard-Price
Brittney McDonald-Lantzer
Sarah Musick, alternate
James Proby, alternate
Courtney Stone, alternate

The officers for 2016-2017 are:

James Chaney, Chair
Brenda Dukart, Co-Chair
Di Graski, Secretary
Brittney McDonald-Lantzer, Treasurer

Community Outreach:

1. The HRC invited fellow Colorado HRCs to participate in a 2-day conflict resolution seminar conducted by the Department of Justice. Eighteen commissioners from Front Range communities attended the seminar to practice conflict resolution techniques and share best practices.
2. Supported “Neighbor Up!” Event in April 2015. Provided participants with landlord-tenant resources and offered HRC skills to moderate neighborhood conversations.
3. Hosted a table at the “Creating Community” breakfast held by Citizens Project.
4. Provided a booth at the “Summer Fest” in Southeast COS; provided over 1,000 neighborhood attendees resources regarding landlord-tenant initiatives.
5. Commissioners participated in Coffee with Council in July 2015.

6. August monthly HRC meeting was held at the Southeast YMCA and a panel of experts from United Way, Continuum of Care and the Independence Center conducted a panel discussion on the COS Homeless Continuity of Care plan and winter planning initiatives.
7. Attended City Council's open forum for the Sit-Lie Ordinance discussions & continued the dialogue by meeting with law enforcement and city council members at the HRC October meeting.
8. Hosted a panel discussion on Employment for Re-entering Offenders at the East Library; panelist included the Pikes Peak Workforce Center and representation from the 4th Judicial District's Minority Overrepresentation Committee
9. Organized and distributed community "thank you" banners to first responders following the Planned Parenthood shootings.
10. Partnered with the COS Community Outreach & Development (Amiee Cox, et al.) and moderated community forums between the Springs Rescue Mission and Mill Street Neighborhood regarding the expansion of SRM
11. Moderated community dialogue between COS, Salvation Army & Lowell Neighborhood regarding the temporary warming center's operations.