

Observed Meeting: Ellensburg DEI Commission Date 11/14/23  
 LWV Observer: Ramona Bryant Time 3:00 p.m.

	Yes	No	Comments
<b>Members</b>			
All members present?		x	Alex Mandujano, excused Olene Togiailua, not in attendance
Members attentive & involved?	x		
Members courteous to each other and public?	x		
Any members recuse themselves?		x	
<b>Agenda</b>			
Agenda available prior to and during meeting?	x		
Agenda followed?	x		
Agenda amended?		x	
Non-agenda items discussed?		x	
Was time given to public input?	x		

**Action:**

Please provide a brief, impartial summary of the meeting, including key issues discussed, significant actions taken, and other observations:

Kelly Davenburg, Ellensburg Arts & Cultural Alliance, which supports creative industry, reported an application submission for a Certified Creative District Designation. This alliance supports a 29 million dollar industry in the area and helps raise all voices for Arts and Culture.

The World Cafe' AKA Belonging in the Burg will be held at CWU the end of February or March. This event will be centered on students in the community.

Tylene Carnell reported on a Pizza Klatch being held at Ellensburg High School every Thursday over the lunch time. This allows students to come together in a safe, informal environment.

Trans Rural Life is documenting transgender residents over 50 held at Helen House.

Human Library was held November 18 at Hal Holmes with 12 books (people) sharing their experiences.

Ellensburg Bail Fund documentation has been translated into Spanish. The Fund provides cash bail for marginalized people and college students who are unable to afford bail and find themselves incarcerated while awaiting routine court appearances.

If minutes were posted online, please provide a link:

If a vote on an ordinance will be taken later, please provide the name or number of the ordinance and the date of the vote:

Do you recommend local League action on any of these issues?

What action do you recommend, i.e., support, oppose, study, inform the community, other (please specify):

Observed Meeting:	Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Commission	Date	September 12, 2023
LWV Observer:	Ramona Bryant	Time	3:00

	Yes	No	Comments
<b>Members</b>			
All members present?		x	Teresa Divine excused Olene Togiailua absent
Members attentive & involved?	x		
Members courteous to each other and public?	x		
Any members recuse themselves?		x	
<b>Agenda</b>			
Agenda available prior to and during meeting?	x		
Agenda followed?	x		
Agenda amended?		x	
Non-agenda items discussed?			
Was time given to public input?	x		

**Action:**

Please provide a brief, impartial summary of the meeting, including key issues discussed, significant actions taken, and other observations:

Phil Backlund was interviewed and selected to fill the open seat on the Commission. His nomination request will be sent to CC for confirmation at the October 2, 2023 meeting. Phil will attend his first DEI meeting as a Commission member in October.

The Listening Tours subcommittee met and has chosen Olene Togiailua as chairperson.

Jodi Hctor, City Pool staff reported on updating signage at the pool due to an incident that occurred in the Pool restrooms. Staff is looking for input for inclusive language for all-gender changing rooms. Any changes will go before Parks and Recreation Commission before adoption. There was discussion among Commission members about appropriate verbiage and accommodations. Members are being forwarded

signage language being used in other municipalities to discuss and forward findings to Pool staff.

At the August 8, 2023 Commission meeting, Carolyn Thurston, Director of the Dispute Resolution Center of Yakima and Kittitas County gave a presentation about forming a Central Washington Equity Coalition. The Commission agreed that they would like to participate in this formation to further partnerships for diversity, equity and inclusion in Central Washington. This affirmation will be sent to Carolyn for further direction.

A motion was passed to make changes to City Council Rules & Regulations, Section 7 2022-45 removing the obligation to include addresses when speaking before City Council or other Commissions. This will be forwarded to Council for consideration and approval.

A motion was passed to approve the goal list from the Commission retreat accepting language changes and “friendly” amendments.

A motion was passed to forward to CC Accomplishments List from 2022-23.

“Safe space” trainers trained an additional 24 trainers. Each trainer will each train two additional trainers.

If minutes were posted online, please provide a link: <https://ci.ellensburg.wa.us/1124/Diversity-Equity-Inclusion-Commission>

If a vote on an ordinance will be taken later, please provide the name or number of the ordinance and the date of the vote:

Do you recommend local League action on any of these issues?

What action do you recommend, i.e., support, oppose, study, inform the community, other (please specify):

Observed Meeting: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Commission Date July 11, 2023  
 LWV Observer: Ramona Bryant Time 3 pm

	Yes	No	Comments
<b>Members</b>			
All members present?	x		
Members attentive & involved?	x		
Members courteous to each other and public?	x		
Any members recuse themselves?		x	
<b>Agenda</b>			
Agenda available prior to and during meeting?	x		
Agenda followed?	x		
Agenda amended?		x	
Non-agenda items discussed?			
Was time given to public input?	x		

**Action:**

Please provide a brief, impartial summary of the meeting, including key issues discussed, significant actions taken, and other observations:

Lucinda Carnell a 17-year CWU Biology instructor was welcomed as a new liaison to the commission. Lucinda is part of the CWU DEI committee.

Tylene Carnell reported to be working on a proposal to CC to amend the rules to allow community members to present without giving name and addresses

Mayra Colazo reported on Unity Park murals and land acknowledgment. It was recommended to include indigenous members in the planning.

Safe space training is underway to reach out to local businesses who are committed to DEI. The training is being supported through a Health Network Grant.

Olene Togiailua is participating with Young Democrats at CWU. They are trying to resurrect this club to promote voting among students.

The Commission is planning their annual retreat in August..

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If a vote on an ordinance will be taken later, please provide the name or number of the ordinance and the date of the vote:

Do you recommend local League action on any of these issues?

What action do you recommend, i.e., support, oppose, study, inform the community, other (please specify):

Observed Meeting: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Commission Date June 13, 2023  
 LWV Observer: Ramona Bryant Time 3:00

	Yes	No	Comments
<b>Members</b>			
All members present?		x	Mayra Colazo, Teresa Divine excused
Members attentive & involved?	x		
Members courteous to each other and public?	x		
Any members recuse themselves?		x	
<b>Agenda</b>			
Agenda available prior to and during meeting?	x		
Agenda followed?	x		
Agenda amended?	x		Partnership Opportunity with The Dispute Resolution Ctr postponed until July
Non-agenda items discussed?	x		
Was time given to public input?	x		Pat Kelleher re: park restrooms

**Action:**

Please provide a brief, impartial summary of the meeting, including key issues discussed, significant actions taken, and other observations:

Two new Commission members, Amber Hoefler and Olene Togiailua were recognized. Amber works at CWU in student involvement and Olene is a student at CWU.

The Pride Parade was recognized as having had a good turnout. Commissioner Tylene Carnell will finalize the sponsorship of Pride 2023.

The grant process guidelines were finalized and passed by the Commission. The announcement of the grants will be announced now, and awarded in August. These grant funds must be spent by December.

The Commission acknowledged the Juneteenth proclamation at the last CC meeting and determined to have an event to celebrate in 2024.

The Commission referred to a rules requirement regarding comments from the public requiring the community member give their address. DEI will review the rule and determine whether to recommend a change in the language to City Council.

It was noted that one more vacant seat on the Commission should be filled.

Commission Chair Nancy Goodloe was given the Washington Association of School Administrator's Award. It was presented by the ESD Superintendent and the June 5th CC meeting.

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If a vote on an ordinance will be taken later, please provide the name or number of the ordinance and the date of the vote:

Do you recommend local League action on any of these issues?

What action do you recommend, i.e., support, oppose, study, inform the community, other (please specify):

Observed Meeting: Diversity Equity & Inclusion Commission Date May 9, 2023  
 LWV Observer: Ramona Bryant Time 3:00 pm

	Yes	No	Comments
<b>Members</b>			
All members present?	x		
Members attentive & involved?	x		
Members courteous to each other and public?	x		
Any members recuse themselves?		x	
<b>Agenda</b>			
Agenda available prior to and during meeting?	x		
Agenda followed?	x		
Agenda amended?		x	
Non-agenda items discussed?		x	
Was time given to public input?	x		

**Action:**

Please provide a brief, impartial summary of the meeting, including key issues discussed, significant actions taken, and other observations: Japanese American WWII Heroes event will be held Thursday May11 at CWU Museum of Culture & Environment.

Brad Case presented Park Restroom Accessibility report addressing inquiries about year-round restroom access in City parks.

Listening Tours are the method for the Commission to hear the concerns and needs of marginalized populations in the community of Ellensburg. Guidelines and policy recommendation documents for conducting the listening tours was completed and approved by the Commission.

The goal of agency partner liaison roles on the DEI Commission are to foster greater collaborative working relationships. Liaisons are member representative appointed by an agency or institution to communicate, collaborate and coordinate common actions

with the DEI Commission. The liaison role description was developed and approved by the Commission.

Grant processes were discussed in relation to the development of grant procedures to enable the Commission distribute \$4000 in funds to applicants. The policy and procedures are in their final review and will be approved at the June meeting.

City Council will review the second reading of the ordinance expanding the DEI Commission at the May 15 CC meeting. If approved this will add two additional seats to the commission.

Interviews are in process for the replacement of one vacant position on the Commission.

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If a vote on an ordinance will be taken later, please provide the name or number of the ordinance and the date of the vote:

Do you recommend local League action on any of these issues?

What action do you recommend, i.e., support, oppose, study, inform the community, other (please specify):

Observed Meeting: Diversity Equity & Inclusion Commission Date March 7, 2023`  
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 LWV Observer: Ramona Bryant Time 3:00 pm  
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	Yes	No	Comments
<b>Members</b>			
All members present?	x		
Members attentive & involved?	x		
Members courteous to each other and public?	x		
Any members recuse themselves?		x	
<b>Agenda</b>			
Agenda available prior to and during meeting?	x		
Agenda followed?			
Agenda amended?	x		Added to new business discuss liaisons from CWU and ESD
Non-agenda items discussed?	x		How to expedite grant process
Was time given to public input?	x		No public input

**Action:**

Please provide a brief, impartial summary of the meeting, including key issues discussed, significant actions taken, and other observations:

Members continue work on interviews for human library. Fliers are being developed for starting this spring.

World Cafe subcommittee met to discuss the first “Belonging in the Berg - Building Bridges Together” and how to address questions on the goal of creating a place to build community. Suggestions are due back to the committee by March 17. Ideas could include questions such as “how to include someone new into communities” or “what makes you feel respected and how do you show respect”

City Council approved spending plan submitted last month to include \$4,000 for grants to communities in 2023. Grant process is being developed by subcommittee to allow for allocation of funds. The Commission discussed possible ways to expedite the process to allow for several communities who have activities planned this spring.

“Pub Theology” is being sponsored by the Episcopal Church and moderated by the Father of the Church to be held at the Palace Cafe every Wednesday night at 6:00 to discuss relevant social issues. The community is invited to attend and participate.

The Block Party to show inclusivity to CWU students is scheduled for May 11. This follows the successful event of last year and is co-hosted by DEI and CWU.

It was reported that The Listening Tours could include 65+ different communities in Ellensburg. The subcommittee recommends developing a reporting process when meeting with different groups to provide consistency and focuses on the goals of commission.

The commission chairperson was asked to consider including 2 non-voting liaisons in commission meetings by CWU and ESD. Concerns were voiced that these participants should represent impacted communities but due to the fact they would be non-voting the concern was dismissed. This request was voted on and approved.

DEI Commission Member Daniel Amos has resigned. Staff will begin advertising the position. A DEI subcommittee will interview and determine which applicant to recommend.

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Formal recommendation to increase the membership of DEI from 6 to 8 was voted on and is being sent to City Council.

Do you recommend local League action on any of these issues?

What action do you recommend, i.e., support, oppose, study, inform the community, other (please specify):



Observed Meeting: Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Commission Date: 2-14-223  
 LWV Observer: Ramona Bryant Time: 3:00 pm

	Yes	No	Comments
<b>Members</b>			
All members present?		x	Missing Daniel Amos
Members attentive & involved?	x		
Members courteous to each other and public?	x		
Any members recuse themselves?	x		Kandee Cleary on 2 budget roll calls
<b>Agenda</b>			
Agenda available prior to and during meeting?	x		
Agenda followed?			
Agenda amended?	x		to allow Brenda DeGore (EDA) to speak
Non-agenda items discussed?		x	
Was time given to public input?		x	

**Action:**

Please provide a brief, impartial summary of the meeting, including key issues discussed, significant actions taken, and other observations: Brenda DeGore executive director of Ellensburg Downtown Association presented an initiative branded “CommUnity” which focuses on creating a sense of place for all. It is a City-wide campaign focused on bringing communities together. They will share and connect through EDA website also EDA office has outward facing window for displays that are relevant. A new mural is planned for Pine Street.

Update on “Human Library” in partnership with CWU in the process of interviewing candidates and are encouraging others to apply for candidacy to become “Books”.

Spring World Cafe “Belonging in the Burg - Building Bridges Together” is tentatively scheduled for April 8 pending procuring a new facilitator.

Listening Tour: This is the vehicle for the Commission to listen to priorities, concerns, needs, etc of marginalized populations in the Ellensburg Community. It is necessary to outline policies, procedures and guidelines to be used by the DEI Commission Listening Tour subcommittee to continue to hear these voices.

A draft recommendation was submitted and discussed. Changes to the draft will be reconsidered at the next DEI commission meeting.

THE DEI Commission was requested to provide a “spending plan” to be submitted to CC and the finance department for review.

The commission voted and passed the following:

- 50% (\$5000) for DEI hosted events ie The World Cafe and Listening Tours
- 40% for grants to community groups (grant policy and application will be developed by DEI)
- 10% operational costs

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