

DRAFT MINUTES
JUNEAU HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA
MAY 21, 2025

- I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm.
 1. Present: Haifa Foroughi, Lance Mitchell, and Mary Wegner
 2. Absent: Alison Gottschilich and Camille Mauch
 3. Support: N/A
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: We added *Summer Meeting Schedule* to the Agenda. The Agenda was approved as amended by unanimous consent.
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 1. Minutes of the May 6, 2025 Meeting: The Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.
- IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NON-AGENDA ITEMS: No one from the public was present.
- V. AGENDA
 1. *Living in Marginalized Communities in 2025: A Panel Discussion*: The event was a success! We discussed the need to increase advertisement, such as the flyers need to have better distribution and Lance offered to facilitate this process. Also, we should add in a radio component to help get the word out. Kudos to Lance for identifying the panelists, the panelists themselves, and to Jennifer for her expert moderation. We discussed continuing to offer panels on the same topic, using the same name, poster design, and with the same panelists. In the future, we could start with an introductory overview from each of the panelists and then move into more of a work session with the panelists and participants in the hopes of identifying action items we can recommend to the Assembly. The Valley Library worked well, as did the snacks and water. Lance will download the video so it can be shared online.

The frame for our next panel will be to focus on the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights - Article 25: Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.

Mary met with Leslie Ishii, whom we had invited to be a moderator, however, she was unavailable on the date of our panel discussion. During the meeting, Leslie proposed working with JHRC and other organizations in town

interested in supporting marginalized communities so we can engage in training to increase safety at our events. We discussed inviting Leslie to our June 18th meeting to discuss this further. Mary will extend the invitation.

a. Panelists:

- 1) Jennifer Skinner, Moderator
- 2) Emily Mesch, LGBTQ+
- 3) Dave Ringle, Unhoused Population
- 4) Jeni Brown, Murdered and Indigenous Women
- 5) Shannon McCain, Mental Health

2. Standing Agenda Topics:

a. FY25 Budget:

- 1) Treasurer Report: We were approved for \$150 for gifts and food for the event.
- 2) Community Engagement Project: Not discussed at this meeting.
3. Summer Meeting Schedule: We will not meet in July or August, and we will reconvene our regular meeting schedule on Wednesday, September 17th. The first meeting in June, June 3rd, is not calendared.
4. Revisit Strategic Plan 2024-2025: We reviewed the strategic plan and revised Charges 1, 2, and 3. We will continue with our update of the remaining Charges at another meeting.
5. Annual Report: Haifa will draft an Annual Report to be shared at our next meeting.
6. Joint JHRC and Systemic Racism and Review Committee (SRRC) Meeting: Haifa and Ephraim Froehlich, SRRC Chair, will meet this Friday.
7. Celebrating Black History Month 2026: Lance suggested that we wait until we come back in September to meet with Jasmine Smith regarding hosting a Black Business Expo in 2026.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT: No one from the public was present.

VII. UPCOMING MEETING DATES

- a. Wednesday, June 18, 2025 from 5:00-6:00 pm via Zoom.
- b. Wednesday, September 17, 2025 from 5:00-6:00 pm via Zoom.
- c. Tuesday, October 7, 2025 from 5:00-6:00 pm via Zoom.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 pm.