

ARIZONA CIVIL RIGHTS ADVISORY BOARD:
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HATE-BASED CRIMES AND ANTISEMITIC INCIDENTS

Minutes of Public Meeting

July 12, 2024

Subcommittee Members Present (by Zoom)

Vice Mayor Holli Ploog (Chairperson)

Dr. Heather M. Ross (Vice Chairperson)

Staff Members Present (by Zoom)

Nate Anbar (Executive Liaison)

I. Call to Order.

Chairperson Ploog called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. The meeting took place via Zoom.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting, held on June 20, 2024, were approved unanimously.

III. Topics for Discussion and Possible Action.

a. Recap of ongoing efforts to contact, evaluate, and propose potential appointments to the subcommittee of individuals discussed previously.

Members discussed having contacted multiple potential appointees. Vice Chairperson Ross and subcommittee staff met with two potential appointees, while Chairperson Ploog additionally communicated with two others. Multiple resumes and letters of interest were received and others are expected to be received. From the previous list of potential appointments, only one individual was not contacted. Chairperson Ploog and staff will reach out to this individual before the next meeting of the subcommittee. Based on the responses from individuals contacted and ongoing vetting it is likely that two or three individuals will be ready for appointment by the next ACRAB meeting.

One of the potential appointees contacted by Chairperson Ploog declined to participate but provided an alternative recommendation. Members discussed this circumstance and determined that they would not move forward with this particular recommendation. Members asked staff to obtain language for notifying applicants of their decisions regarding appointments.

b. Discussion of additional individuals recommended by subcommittee members, ACRAB members, and staff.

Members discussed other potential individuals to consider for appointments. Members added two individuals to their list for immediate outreach and vetting.

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Members also discussed holding informal conversations with additional individuals who may be able to provide the subcommittee with useful information. These individuals could also potentially become candidates for appointment eventually pending the outcomes of these conversations and further deliberation by subcommittee members. Chairperson Ploog previously conducted multiple informal conversations of this nature. Based on the recommendation of a member of ACRAB not on this subcommittee, Chairperson Ploog added an additional individual to her list for informal conversation. Prior to this, staff will confer with the member of ACRA who initially recommended the individual to learn more.

c. Discussion of recent events potentially relevant to the subcommittee's purpose and anticipated deliverable(s).

Chairperson Ploog briefly discussed a recent news story related to antisemitic bullying in schools. Members agreed that they would continue sending relevant news stories and examples to staff.

d. Scheduling of future meetings.

The next meeting of the subcommittee is scheduled for Friday August 16th at 1 pm. Members agreed to wait before setting future meeting dates/times.

IV. Staff Report

Subcommittee Staff discussed ongoing vetting of proposed members and noted that internal discussions would be ongoing. Results of vetting will be shared with subcommittee members. Staff brought up an additional recommendation for membership on the subcommittee made by the Attorney General's Executive Office. More information about questions raised at this and the previous subcommittee meeting will be provided when Civil Rights Division Staff have had a chance to fully look into them.

V. Adjournment

Members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 am. The next meeting of the Subcommittee will be held on Friday, August 16, 2024 at 1:00 pm.