Chair Leah Pryor-Lease called the meeting to order at 6:14 p.m. and Opened in Honor of: NCLR case in Arizona: McLaughlin v. McLaughlin, which ruled that a woman was the legal parent of the child she and her same-sex spouse conceived through assisted reproduction during their marriage.

Approval of Agenda was moved by Rob Farol, seconded by Mike Taylor, and approved by voice vote.

Approval of Minutes was moved by Rob Farol, seconded by Darrell Vigil, and approved by voice vote.

Commissioner Roll Call
Commissioners present: Cody Caffee, Lauren Cikara, Rob Farol, Arash Jahanian, Dana Juniel, Lance King, Leah Pryor-Lease, Michael Taylor, Shawn Turk, Darrell Vigil, and Jeremiah Whitehead
Commissioners by phone: Elizabeth Jaenicke and Dawn Crosswhite
Commissioners absent: Brian Brant, Tristan Gorman, Jason Marsden, Andrea Putman, and Sable Schultz
Ex-Officio: Lt. Mike Wyatt and Anthony Aragon
Guests: None

Public Comment
None.

Guest Speakers & Timely Topic
Leah led a discussion of the Municipal Equality Index (MEI). The MEI has been in existence for 6 years. It is a program of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC). Denver scored an 82 on the MEI in 2016. Scores for 2017 will be announced in October. Criteria change annually; therefore a score of 100 is not “permanent.” There are opportunities for the City and County of Denver to improve its score by focusing on the needs of specific sub-populations and investing resources in same (e.g., elderly, homeless, youth, transgender, etc.). There are also opportunities for intentional leadership regarding pro-LGBTQ equality issues, relations with the LGBTQ community, and support for pro-equality legislative proposals at the state level.

On a related topic, Lt. Wyatt provided commissioners an update on year-to-date reporting of bias-motivated incidents across DPD compared to prior years. Through the end of July, there were 44 reported incidents, compared to 32 in all of 2016 and 26 in 2015.

Old Business
- Future Speakers
November – Emma Shin, Name Change Project
December – No meeting
January – Elections

Standing Committee Reports
See below.

Upcoming Events
- Matthew Shepard Bear-lesque & Gala: October 13th & 14th
- GSA Summit: October 21 (need 5-7 Commissioners as note-takers and listeners); at Bruce Randolph High School
- Cabinet in the Community: November 4th (at Wings Over the Rockies) – EJ and Rob
- The Center – Trans Brunch: November 19th
- Trans Day of Remembrance: November 19th (for proclamation) and events on the 20th
- World AIDS Day: December 1st

New Business
- HRCP staff report – Anthony Aragon
  - Diversity survey of all Commissions forthcoming. Nominations/election process information also forthcoming; all officer positions are open for nomination.
  - Suggested that we may need a dedicated Commissioner to manage the Commission’s social media presence.
- Mayor Meeting and Recommendations
  - Date/time of meeting TBD.
  - Executive Committee will develop a binder of materials prior to the meeting with the Mayor; subcommittees are encouraged to submit issues and topics.
- Center for American Progress (CAP) Report Working Group
  - First meeting next Monday, 10/16, 5:30ish (likely at Hamburger Mary’s)
- Holiday Party: Friday, December 8th
  - At Interstate Bar & Grill (on Santa Fe) or at Lauren’s apartment community room
- Masterpiece amicus brief
  - Lance King moved, Lauren Cikara seconded, and the Commission voted unanimously (with Arash Jahanian abstaining) to sign on to the amicus brief being coordinated by and on behalf of several Colorado organizations, and strongly encouraged Mayor Hancock and Council members to do likewise in supporting the brief.

Announcements
None.

Adjournment was moved by Arash Jahanian, seconded by Dana Juniel, and approved by voice vote at 7:58 p.m.
Next Commission Meeting
November 14th
6:00 p.m.
Colorado Health Network

Standing Committee Reports

HRCP
No report due absence at HRCP meeting.

PUBLIC POLICY
Public Policy Cmte 10/5/17
In Attendance: Mike Taylor, Jeremiah, Arash, Leah (by phone), Tristan
1) Revisions to DADO
Anthony has provided the latest updated version of the proposed ordinance change. We are debating whether it’s best to propose incorporation of gender neutral language re: lactation rooms in public buildings and all references to pregnancy or breastfeeding or to try to address it through city guidelines on lactation rooms rather than DADO itself. The concern is delaying the DADO revisions any further. Leah is following up on this next week and will provide a further update.

2) Municipal Conversion Therapy Ban
The subcommittee is reviewing ordinance language from some of the municipal bans in major U.S. cities. We reviewed the Westminster proclamation against conversion therapy that was recently issued which is not an enforceable ban/ordinance. We checked with Anthony on how to move forward with the Mayor’s office on proposing a municipal ban in Denver, if we decide to do so. (Another question is whether it needs to be accomplished legislatively or if it can be done by executive order by the Mayor.) He put us in touch with Derek Okubo, who will review the request and give input. After he reviews, he can then share with Skye Stuart, the Mayor’s Legislative Director.

3) Outreach to Faith Community
We need to decide if/when/how we are going to collaborate with Interfaith Alliance or Iliff School of Theology on programming or events. This depends on engagement of our Commission and our community. What’s the conversation the Denver LGBTQ community wants to have with the Denver faith community? Should we incorporate this question into our community’s listening sessions beginning in October? Jeremiah is collecting questions from each subcommittee for the four listening sessions, so this may be a good one to incorporate.

4) Masterpiece Amicus Brief
The Commission, along with a number of other Colorado LGBT organizations, has been asked to sign on to an amicus brief to be submitted in the Masterpiece Cakeshop case. It highlights the history of LGBT rights and discrimination in Colorado. The goal is to tell Colorado’s story on LGBTQ discrimination and how CADA is protecting our community throughout the state. A draft was just circulated today. Briefs are due to the Supreme Court 10/30. We have reached out to Anthony, who put us in touch with Derek Okubo for next steps on how to address this request through proper channels in the Mayor’s office.

5) Next Meeting
The Public Policy Subcommittee meets the first Thursday of the month at 5:30pm at the Gorman & Zuckerman office, 1245 East Colfax Avenue, Suite 300, Denver, CO 80218.
Our next meeting is Thursday, November 2nd, at 5:30pm.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES (updated during meeting)
HHS Sub-Committee Meeting
September 26, 2017. Present: Rob, Darrell, Dana, Lauren, Mike, Patrick, Elizabeth, Shawn (phone)
I. Homelessness Provider Survey
Contacts – there are three contacts whose email addresses bounced back. Dana will try to correct.
Survey Edits
Number of Persons Serve - A matrix will replace the three questions, combining them into one question with multiple year text boxes.
Populations you provide services to - The yes/no drop downs will be replaced with check boxes.
Lauren will provide definitions for all GLBTQ related population categories. Rob will include Queer as a population category. An additional question will be added, asking respondents if they are interested in information about GLBTQ specific training for their organizations. This information will be shared with Sable. It was requested that we BCC the survey recipients when emailing the final version of the survey.
Survey Monkey – Dana will reach out to Leah to determine the process for requesting funds to cover the cost of Survey Monkey. Rob will determine the cost of the components necessary to improve the functionality of the survey.
Survey Schedule
All Survey Edits Complete – October 2nd
Survey sent to HHS Sub-Committee – October 3rd (please send Rob any additional changes by October 5th). Survey to be sent to Executive Committee for review/approval – week of October 9th. Survey Sent to Homelessness Provider Contacts – week of October 16th
Reminder Letter from Erik Solivan. Survey to remain open through early November.
II. ACA Strategic Objective
Based on the fact that efforts to repeal the ACA have been unsuccessful, this objective has become unnecessary at this time. We will revisit if it become necessary.
III. 90/90/90
Darrell will reach out to Anthony Stamper, Program Manager for the Denver Office of HIV Resources, to invite him to our October sub-committee meeting to discuss the current status of the target that 90% of people diagnosed with HIV will receive sustained antiretroviral therapy. He will also ask Anthony whether other experts throughout the state should be invited to participate in the discussion. Based on recent communications, we believe that the information being provided by city representatives is inconsistent, and want to take on the task of ensuring the city is on message.
IV. 2018 Strategic Planning
Possible focus areas for our sub-committee in 2018 include:
Continuing efforts in homelessness prevention for LGBTQ people, tobacco use, substance abuse (e.g., opioids, meth, cocaine). A focus on paramedic data and response may offer an opportunity to partner with the First Responders sub-committee.

Next sub-committee meeting – October 25, 2017 at Colorado Health Network

PUBLIC SAFETY
The Public Safety Subcommittee met on Wednesday, October 4, 2017 at Mile High Hamburger Mary’s. Present: Jason Marsden, Co-Chair, and Sable Schultz.

The subcommittee reviewed and finalized the notes from the co-chairs’ recent meeting with Denver Sheriff Patrick Firman regarding the potential designation of an LGBTQ liaison or liaisons (see attached report). Subcommittee members who could not attend the meeting were given the draft notes as well for review and input. Once the Commission approves the language requested by the Sheriff, we will deliver it and work on next steps in the process with DSD personnel. The subcommittee will then move on to a dialogue on liaison officers with the Fire Department.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

We reviewed and approved the draft agenda and discussed YTD budget and requests. We also reviewed commissioner attendance and attrition. We currently have 3 vacancies but will wait until after the new year to do a round our recruitment and interviews. We have a tentative date for the holiday party 12/8 and reviewed other events, including the GSA summit. We also discussed the possibility of doing more formal volunteering as a commission but felt it was too much of a time commitment and possible mission creep. Lastly we discussed the structure and format for the annual Mayor meeting and recommendations as well as the Masterpiece amicus brief.