

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-18

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COVINGTON, WASHINGTON, ESTABLISHING THE EQUITY, CULTURAL, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

WHEREAS, at the June 9, 2020, regular city council meeting, there was council consensus for staff to bring an agenda item to a future meeting to discuss creation of a City of Covington multicultural diversity commission; and

WHEREAS, at the July 14, 2020 regular city council meeting, council began discussing the creation of a commission and requested for staff to schedule a study session for further discussion; and

WHEREAS, on July 28, 2020, council held a special meeting to hear a presentation from Preeti Shridhar, Deputy Public Affairs Administrator at City of Renton, regarding Renton's efforts to establish the Renton's Mayor's Inclusion Task Force; and

WHEREAS, At the August 11, 2020 regular city council meeting, council further discussed the opportunity to create a commission to address equity, cultural, and social justice issues, and requested staff to bring an agenda item in September to create such commission; and

WHEREAS, per City Council Policies and Procedures, adopted by Resolution No. 2018-03 on March 13, 2018, 8.1.1, the city council may establish advisory bodies (including, but not limited to commissions, committees, boards, and tasks forces) by resolution or, if required by state statute, ordinance. The enacting resolution (or ordinance) will set forth the size of each advisory body, which will be related to its duties and responsibilities; the term of its members; a statement of its purpose and functions; and timelines, if relevant to the scope of work;

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Covington, King County, Washington, resolves as follows:

Section 1. Creation of Commission. The Equity, Cultural, and Social Justice Commission is hereby created as set forth in Exhibit A.

Section 2. Severability. If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this resolution, or its application to any person or situation, be declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid for any reason, or should any portion of this ordinance be pre-empted by state or federal law or regulation, such decision or preemption shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this resolution or its application to other persons or situation. The City Council of the City of Covington hereby declares that it would have adopted this resolution and each section, subsection, sentence, clauses, phrase, or portion thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, phrases, or portions be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

Section 3. Corrections. Upon the approval of the City Attorney, the City Clerk and the codifiers of this resolution are authorized to make any necessary corrections to this resolution including, but not limited to, the correction of scrivener's/clerical errors, references, resolution numbering, section/subsection numbers, and any reference thereto.

Section 4. Ratification. Any act consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this resolution is hereby ratified and affirmed.

Section 5. Effective Date. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage by the City Council of the City of Covington.

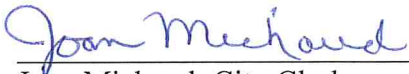
Passed by the City Council of the City of Covington this 22nd day of September, 2020.

Signed in authentication of its passage this 30TH day of September, 2020.



Jeff Wagner, Mayor

AUTHENTICATED:



Joan Michaud, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Mark Orthmann, as authorized by email on September 22, 2020

Mark Orthmann, City Attorney

EXHIBIT A

EQUITY, CULTURAL, AND SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

1. Created. The Equity, Cultural, and Social Justice Commission (“Commission”) is hereby created and shall serve in an advisory capacity to the City Council.
2. Membership and Residence Requirements. The Commission shall consist of a minimum of seven members and a maximum of fifteen members appointed by the City Council. Members must live or work within the City limits or within a three-mile radius of the City limits.
3. Term of Office. Each position shall have a term of office for two years. Positions shall have staggered expiration dates; therefore, for the initial members appointed, four (4) members shall begin with two (2) year terms and three (3) members shall begin with three (3) year terms. All additional initial members beyond the minimum seven, shall begin with two (2) year terms. Terms shall commence on October 1 and expire on September 30 of the respective years. If a member is not appointed for a new term on October 1, the incumbent member may continue to serve in that position until such later date when a member is appointed for a new term. When a vacancy occurs on the Commission, the replacement member shall be appointed only for the remainder of the unexpired term.
4. Quorum. At all Commission meetings, a majority of the minimum Commission membership (four members) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. All matters shall pass by affirmative vote of a majority of Commission members present at the meeting.
5. Removal. Commission members may be removed by the City Council at any time pursuant to the Covington City Council Policies and Procedures, as amended from time to time.
6. Organization and Meetings. The Commission shall adopt Policies and Procedures. The City Manager shall appoint staff to provide assistance to the commission as available and permitted by the budget. The commission shall meet one time per month and upon call of the chairperson, as necessary.
7. Responsibilities. The Commission shall act in an advisory capacity to the City Council. To that end, the commission shall study, investigate, counsel, and develop and/or update written plans regarding how to address equity, cultural, and social justice issues within the City as requested by the City Council, and shall be responsible for the following:
 - 7.1 Submitting periodic reports to the City Council setting forth its progress in completing its work program for the current fiscal year. The Chairperson of the

Commission or designee is encouraged to regularly present updates to the City Council at the first regular City Council meeting or study session after each Commission meeting;

7.2 Reviewing and providing recommendations regarding the City's vision, mission, goals, comprehensive plan updates, and other areas by addressing equity, cultural, and social justice issues;

7.3 Such other and further responsibilities as may be assigned to the Commission by the City Council, from time to time.