

Human Relations Commission Zoom Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2021

- I. Call to Order
Meeting was called at 6:02 by Cheryl Ragland
- II. Roll Call
Members Present: Robert VanSumeren, James Johnson, Cheryl Ragland, Shalanda Hunt, Miriam Brown Dorsey, Maurice Imhoff
Absent: Karyl Baker, Arlene Robinson (City Council Liaison)
Staff: John Willis
- III. Adoption of the Agenda: Motion to adopt agenda by Miriam Brown Dorsey. 2nd by James Johnson.
- IV. Virtual Citizen Comments: None
- V. Guest Speakers: None
- VI. Approval of Minutes (June): Motion to accept minutes by Miriam Brown Dorsey. 2nd by James Johnson. Motion carried with amendments.
- VII. Approval of Minutes (April): Motion to accept minutes by Miriam Brown Dorsey. 2nd by James Johnson. Discussion: Old business (add Doria's last name, Laporte)
- VIII. Committee Reports:
 - A. Nominating Committee
 - i. The Nominating Committee convened (James Johnson, Miriam Brown Dorsey, Shalanda Hunt) because Thomas Burke does not currently live within the city limits, we do not have a current position for him. We had the city send out a letter notifying him and that he can reapply in the future.
 - ii. Please direct Thomas Burke to either one of the nominating committee members if he has additional questions. There are rules in place that are allocated for designated areas. We want to stay within those guidelines.
 - iii. Ex-Officio positions are in the following areas: Business, Education, and Social Services.
 - B. Policy and Complaint Committee-
 - i. A complaint came in, but it was not a HRC complaint. It was an internal departmental complaint. James Johnson stated that there is a HRC complaint coming in from a police officer. James encouraged the parties involved to file a complaint.
 - ii. If the complaint is a direct police misbehavior, the complaint goes to the police department first. If the citizen feels that it was not handled through the police department then the complaint will come to the HRC.
 - iii. A letter was written to Elmer Hitt. A response has not been received.
 - iv. John Willis meets with the police department once a week, every Monday.
 - v. A third party can file the complaint on behalf of a citizen with a legal mental capacity issue.
 - vi. A couple complaints are coming our way. They are not police matters. They are community matters that involve housing issues and a potential NDO violation.
- IX. Old Business-
 - A. Fair Chance Housing Ordinance-

Human Relations Commission Zoom Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2021

- i. Documents will be picked up from Detroit tomorrow (July 22, 2021) at 10:00am. They are completed. City of Jackson has a direct contact for printing services.
 - ii. John Willis agrees to send Commissioners a copy. It is on one huge document for the housing providers.
 - iii. City of Jackson will contract with Affordable Fair Housing for training through Lansing. They have more trainers.
 - iv. Sub-committee: Robert VanSumeren, Maurice Imhoff, Miriam Brown Dorsey, Cheryl Ragland
 - v. John Willis requested three potential dates to hold the training session and he will forward the dates along for confirmation.
 - vi. It is recommended that all commissioners be trained at the same time.
 - vii. Training options: (3)4-hour sessions or 1- full day session. Full day sessions are only held on Thursday or Saturday.
 - viii. Lunch will be provided for a full day session of training.
 - ix. August 12th, 19th, and 26th were suggested dates. The preference is the 12th or 26th as a full day session.
- B. Dine Under the Lights Proposal-
- i. Maurice Imhoff has attempted several times to call Cory Mays (Downtown Development Authority Director) but has been unsuccessful.
 - ii. Maurice agrees to schedule an in-person meeting to solidify details. Maurice will provide an update in August.
- C. Expungement Fair Partnership-
- i. Robert VanSumeren spoke with Mr. Gant. He has plans to put an event on with Delia Johnson.
 - ii. Robert VanSumeren is proposing that the HRC can partner with Mr. Gant and Delia Johnson to help promote their plans.
 - iii. John Willis provided additional information. The AFL-CIO is partnering with Martin Luther King Center on August 11, 2021, to hold a job fair and expungement fair. They would like the HRC to partner with them.
 - iv. If HRC approves partnership, commissioners will attend the scheduled event, in support.
 - v. John Willis agrees to make the necessary contacts and follow up with the HRC.
 - vi. A motion was placed by Robert VanSumeren that the HRC approves, in good faith, collaboration with the AFL-CIO if reasonable to do so in the expungement and job fair. 2nd by Shalanda Hunt. Motion carried and passed unanimously.
 - vii. Once contact is made, John Willis with direct to Robert VanSumeren.
- D. Harold White Breakfast:
- i. Cheryl Ragland secured the date (October 13th at 7:30am)
 - ii. The contract has been forwarded to John Willis.
 - iii. Payment has been arranged.
 - iv. A motion was made by Miriam Brown Dorsey for Cheryl Ragland to go to Cascades Manor, review the breakfast menu pick and choose the menu for

Human Relations Commission Zoom Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2021

the Harold White Breakfast Diversity, Inclusion and Volunteer Awards Banquet. 2nd by Maurice Imhoff.

- v. Suggestions were made for individuals in each award category.
- vi. Maurice Imhoff mentioned that since the event was canceled last year that we should expand the number of recipients for each awards category.
- vii. Discussion to include the community in deciding recipients for each award took place.
- viii. The public will be granted the opportunity to complete nomination forms. The nomination forms will be placed on the City of Jackson website. Other advertisement options may include but not limited to Facebook, JTV, Citizen Patriot, WKHM.
- ix. Cost and location of where the name of each recipient needs to also be considered.
- x. Discussion about potential speakers for Harold White Breakfast Banquet was held.
- xi. The following names were suggested for being chosen as the keynote speaker for the Harold White Breakfast Banquet: Ken Toll, Dwight Wilson, and Garland Gilcrest.
- xii. Based on the internal vote, Ken Toll was chosen.
- xiii. A motion to adopt the list of guest speakers for the Harold White Breakfast was placed by Maurice Imhoff. 2nd by Miriam Brown Dorsey.
- xiv. James Johnson agrees to contact Ken Toll to notify him about being chosen as the guest speaker.
- xv. Nomination forms need to be submitted by September 3rd.
- xvi. A motion to approve the format of the Harold White Breakfast flyer was made by Maurice Imhoff. 2nd by James Johnson.

E. Approving Public Ads:

- i. In the past, we used the Blazer, Mlive, JTV, Facebook and WKHM. WKHM usually is at no cost for a public announcement. Now they want us to do a Public Ad and pay for it.
- ii. Discussion to increase attendance took place. How do we get more participation?
- iii. The suggestion to change the day and time of the event was discussed for next year. Possibly consider the weekend.
- iv. Public announcements are free.
- v. Ads run so many times per day for a significant amount of time.

F. Approving Ticket Prices:

- i. John Willis will send out the list of ticket prices.
- ii. Cheryl Ragland agreed to coordinate with the White family
- iii. John Willis will take care of the City's invitation list.

G. Location of the Awards:

- i. Topic will be tabled and revisited at next month's meeting.

X. New Business:

A. Ex-Officio Names Update:

- i. An email was sent out prior to the meeting requesting commissioners to come prepared with potential names.

Human Relations Commission Zoom Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2021

- ii. Each Commissioner was given the opportunity to make name suggestions to fill existing vacancies.
- iii. Ex-Officio members should be representatives, with a connection, to the city of Jackson.

B. CPOC Update:

- i. John Willis stated that the CPOC will go before the City Council on August 10th. Some edit recommendations were suggested but not made because they were specific detail oriented which are things that the actual commission put together.
- ii. Everything has been finalized. The CPOC is going to happen!
- iii. Discussion about the language of the ordinance took place. Clarification was provided through policy review.

C. Nominating Committee:

- i. We currently have 3 names. All of them have not been cleared yet.
- ii. Latrivia Guinn and Davis has been cleared. Green has not been cleared.
- iii. Interviews can be scheduled.

XI. Commissions Comments:

- Robert VanSumeren- Spoke with Karyl and she asked for a pardon to be excused from the meeting tonight. She was waiting for the Zoom link.
- Shalanda Hunt apologized for being late and under the impression that the meeting was virtual. Good meeting. A lot is getting done. Good discussion.
- James Johnson no comment.
- Miriam Brown Dorsey no comment.
- Maurice Imhoff good to see everyone's face
- John Willis appreciate the good work. Don't mind the heavy discussions. We are getting goals accomplished with respect.
- Cheryl Ragland would like to see more respect less interrupting. Everyone brings so much passion to the meetings. Only one person should be speaking at one time.
- Reminder to follow Robert's Rules of Order during each meeting. Allow the Chair to effectively run the meeting.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by:

2nd by:

Motion was carried unanimously:

The meeting was adjourned:

Respectfully submitted,

Shalanda Hunt