



## *City of Greensboro*

### HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

#### MINUTES

June 4, 2014

The Human Relations Commission (HRC) convened for its regular monthly meeting at 11:45 a.m. on the above date in the City Council Chamber on the 2nd floor of the Melvin Municipal Office Building with Interim Chair Janice Reaves presiding.

**PRESENT:** Interim Chair Janice Reaves; Commissioners Margaret Arbuckle, Kurt Collins, Gary Grandon, Adam Marshall, Tonya Doane and Kevin Williams

**HUMAN RELATIONS DEPARTMENT STAFF:** Executive Director Dr. Love Crossling; Supervisor, Allen Hunt.

**EXCUSED ABSENCES:** Commissioners Clarence J. Shufford and Chantale Wesley-Lamin

**ABSENT:** Commissioners Jean Brown, Michael Picarelli, Gale Murphy

**VISITORS:** Councilmember Marikay Abuzuaiter and Brandie Williams, HRD intern.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Interim Chair Reaves called the meeting to order; and a moment of silence was observed.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Meeting Minutes  
On motion made by Commissioner Arbuckle and seconded by Commissioner Grandon the minutes were unanimously approved.
- May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Meeting Minutes  
On motion made by Commissioner Grandon and seconded by Commissioner Arbuckle the minutes were unanimously approved.

#### **REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

There will be no meeting in July but the meeting in August will take place in Central Library. Chair Reaves asked for the elaboration of a flyer to be distributed in different organizations.



## **STAFF REPORT**

Dr. Crossling, HRD Director informed about the Visioning Retreat to be held in the fall in order to assist the organizing and planning of the HRC committees.

Intern Brandie Williams provided research information about the best practices for Commissions as follows:

According to the Department of Justice Guidelines for Effective Human Relations Commissions (HRC), a successful HRC might consider the following focus areas.

Create clearly defined goals revolving around the following tasks:

- **Improvement of Police/Community Relations**  
Example: Create strategies to improve police/community relationships and trust (diversity trainings, bridging the gap between police departments and schools, creating a police-youth task force, etc.).
- **Review and Report**  
Example: Review service delivery areas to ensure diverse community access, review local ordinances that affect race and hate-crime related issues, and “make recommendations to strengthen efforts.”
- **Community Conflict Management**  
Example: Commission might create a community conflict management system that identifies ways to anticipate tensions in the community, provides information and trainings on conflict management and develops plans to respond to recurring conflicts.
- **Facilitate Strong Relationship with Local Schools**  
Example: Facilitate a strong and consistent relationship with local schools and organize human relations programs that help schools create conflict management plans, education students on tolerance and diversity, and form committees made up of parents, students, and faculty to improve human relations.
- **Maintain Community Communication and Visibility**  
Example: Communicate constantly with the community regarding HRC efforts, such that the Commission becomes an authority on all things Human Relations. This can be done through television, radio, social-media and print media.



**OTHER BUSINESS**

Commissioners discussed holding the next regular HRC Meeting permanently in the evening. After lengthy discussion, Commissioner Reaves made a motion to table the voting to the next meeting after knowing the results of a doodle to find out the best days for other commissioners to hold an evening monthly meeting. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion.

**ACKNOWLEDGE ABSENCES**

Excused Absences were acknowledged.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Reaves adjourned the meeting at 1:04 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Chairperson*  
**Greensboro Human Relations Commission**

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*