



City of Greensboro

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

MINUTES

March 5, 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. Interim Chair Janice Reaves presided.

PRESENT: Interim Chair Janice Reaves; Commissioners Jean Brown, Kurt Collins, Tonya Doane, Gary Grandon, Paul Ksieniewicz, Chantale Wesley-Lamin, Adam Marshall, Michael Picarelli, Clarence Shuford, and Kevin Williams; Executive Director Dr. Love Crossling; HRD¹ Staff Allen Hunt and Donna Gray

EXCUSED ABSENCES: Commissioners Margaret Arbuckle and Gale Murphy

ABSENT: None

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF VISITORS: None

Vice Chair Reaves called the meeting to order, and a moment of silence was observed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner Shuford made a motion to receive the Minutes with the necessary corrections. Discussion of the ad hoc committee ensued. Commissioner Picarelli brought a point of order to move the discussion of the ad hoc committee to 'New Business'. Interim Chair Reaves agreed and returned to the motion on the floor. Commissioner Grandon seconded the motion to receive the Minutes with the necessary corrections. The motion carried with the Commissioners' unanimous vote.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR: Vice Chair Reaves stated that HRC Chair Wendell Phillips has resigned from the Commission. He has accepted the position of Chief of Staff for NC Central University, and can no longer fulfill the duties of the HRC.

STAFF REPORT: Allen Hunt reported the following:

- The new ad hoc committee will be a big thrust; areas of interest in the community have been identified.
- City Academy graduates have been contacted and sent information regarding both Commissions, i.e., the HRC and the CSW, and invited to join one of the Commissions and/or committees.
- The Complaint Review Enhancement Committee, made up of City Council members, is reviewing the function, form, and jurisdiction of the Complaint Review Committee (CRC). A first meeting, facilitated by Dr. Crossling, has been held. There will be 3 additional meetings.
- An initial meeting was held with staff to discuss the MLK Breakfast. The Human Services Committee will be contacted for further directives.

Commissioner Picarelli made a motion to suspend the rules to move the Agenda forward to discuss the new ad hoc committee prior to committee reports. Commissioner Shuford seconded the motion. Commissioners voted unanimously, and the motion carried.

Programming and Planning Ad Hoc Committee – Commissioner Grandon

Commissioner Grandon had e-mailed a draft charge for the newly formed ad hoc committee. He read the proposed charge (see attached). Ad Hoc Committee members include Commissioner Tonya Doane and community volunteer Kimberly Lightsey, a former HRC member; Commissioner Reaves will co-chair.

Following discussion, Commissioner Shuford made a motion to use the name by which this new committee has been referred, "Programming and Planning Ad Hoc Committee". Commissioner Ksieniewicz seconded the motion. The motion carried with Commissioners voting affirmatively, but with 1 opposing.



Other discussion regarding Programming and Planning were:

- Formation and holding a meeting next week
- Community outreach – representation from each district to include non-commission members
- Acting as a conduit for future programming
- Meeting in City Hall after 5 p.m.
- Publicity
- Establishing a calendar for HRC and CSW events, meetings, etc.
- Staff keeping the HRC abreast of concerns in the community at large, the City Council, and the HRD
- A list created from trends that come into the HRD along with themes from City Council meetings by Dr. Crossling and Mr. Hunt to use in conjunction with feedback from the community. Mr. Hunt will provide the list for Commissioners
- All Commissioners sharing ideas with Commissioner Grandon

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Complaint Review Committee (CRC) – Commissioner Shuford: The CRC met this morning, but had no cases for review. Committee members took part in a workshop on Fair Housing and how to review cases.

Education Committee – Commissioner Picarelli: No report.

Human Services Committee – Commissioner Reaves: No report.

International Advisory Committee (IAC): No report.

Montgomery/Wells Housing Committee: No report.

OTHER BUSINESS

Items discussed:

- Changing time of HRC meetings
 - Security and budget – Dr. Crossling will approve support
 - Locations / venues
- Leadership change / elections
- Ordinance revisions to Council for time/meeting date changes
- Starting meetings on time
- Saluting the flag
- Polling Commissioners about meeting times and availability – Mr. Hunt will send e-mail and include other information with Interim Chair’s permission
 - Commissioner Picarelli made a motion to refer to Committee, and the Committee being staff. Commissioner Shuford seconded the motion
- Public perception and availability to the public
- Individuals who accept any Commission appointments should accept the schedule of the specific Board/Commission
- Evening meetings formerly held in the community on a quarterly basis
- Publicizing meetings
- Logistics, marketing, advertising will be handled by Dr. Crossling, Allen Hunt, and Donna Gray
- Review all facts pulled together by staff to make an appropriate decision
- Consistency to avoid confusion
- A calendar of meeting times for other boards/commissions

ACKNOWLEDGE ABSENCES:

Excused Absences were acknowledged.



ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Shuford and seconded by Commissioner Brown. The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Chairperson
Greensboro Human Relations Commission

Approved: _____
Date