



LLOYD WINNECKE
MAYOR

City of Evansville – Vanderburgh County
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

DIANE CLEMENTS-BOYD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

One N.W. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
209 Civic Center Complex • Evansville, IN 47708
(812) 436-4927 (Voice) • TDD: (812) 436-4928 • FAX: (812) 436-4929

COMMISSION BOARD MEETING
MARCH 22, 2017
CIVIC CENTER, ROOM 307

MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Alex Burton
Ruby McGlown
Jason Miner
Henrietta Jenkins
Dan Carwile
Jayson Munoz

STAFF PRESENT:

Diane Clements-Boyd, Executive Director
Bonnie Fox

David Kent, Commission Counsel

First Vice-Chairperson Ruby McGlown called The Human Relations Commission monthly board meeting to order on the above date.

Agenda Requests – None

The above named commissioners and staff were present.

Commissioners Burton and Munoz respectively properly moved, seconded and commissioners unanimously voted to accept the minutes of the February meeting as presented.

NEW BUSINESS:

Amended Ordinance –

County Commissioners voted to accept the amendment changes to add gender identity and sexual orientation to the county ordinance, however the county ordinance has no teeth, if a person or company discriminated in those areas the company could refuse to comply with the investigation.

Sponsorship Request –

HRC received request for sponsorship from Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity for the Annual Scholarship Ball. HRC has placed a color ad in the program book in the past. Commissioners Munoz and Carwile respectively moved and seconded for HRC to sponsor with the color ad for the event from the HRC Donations account. Commissioners voted unanimously.

Annual Indiana Black Barbershop Health Initiative –

The initiative, sponsored by The Social Status of African American Males to which HRC provides administrative support, will be April 8, 2017. Five local barbershops are participating. Fifteen cities in Indiana participate in this annual event. Training for the initiative is two (2) days prior to the event. The state provided lunches the past years but since the state lost its funding, each city has to provide lunch for the barbers and volunteers. HRC needs to provide approximately 50 lunches and the funds come from the donations account. Commissioners Carwile and Jenkins respectively moved and seconded for HRC to provide funding for the lunches not to exceed \$450.00. Commissioners voted unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Annual Dinner –

The director provided information for the Annual Dinner set for October 3, 2017 and reported that the commission has no speaker identified. The director hopes to have a speaker locked in by April. The director will bring a recommendation to the April meeting.

Public Hearings – Update

Ross v. Shannon Glen Apartments –

Scheduled for April 24-25. Five (5) commissioners needed to attend and must stay throughout the entire proceeding. Attorney Kent provided information that witness and exhibit lists are due by April 3, and closing discovery is soon.

Community Outreach and Education –

School-to-Prison-Pipeline –

Second discussion on March 23 at Zion Missionary Baptist Church. Sponsored by HRC and Evansville Commission on Social Status of African American Males. Panelists to include educators, law enforcement and community advocates. Shelby Coates of WEVV 44 News will be the moderator for the event.

April is Fair Housing Month and the director suggested a public Town Hall meeting to air housing issues the end of April. Commissioner Jenkins suggested that HRC partner with other housing agencies for presentations due to the HRC schedule in April.

Advisory Board on Disability Services is sponsoring an AccessAbility workshop in April. A veteran Advisory Board member from Bloomington is conducting the workshop. The second half of the workshop is devoted to restaurant owners to interface with the disability community to hear their issues on entering restaurants. The presenter will let HRC know his availability.

Director Clements-Boyd suggested that the May community dialogue address immigration as a human rights issue.

Ordinance Revision –

The Director reported that the City of Evansville is graded on equal opportunity issues for LGBTQ individuals by the Human Rights Campaign. The city received an average score, but is making an effort to improve the score. The group reported the HRC ordinance does not have a definition for employment discrimination. Commissioner Carwile suggested looking over the entire ordinance and make changes and/or improvements accordingly. The ordinance changes will come to commissioners for approval before sending to city council.

DIRECTOR REPORT:

The director presented her monthly report for February.

The director reported that disability and age cases are no longer transferred to EEOC for investigation. HRC now investigates those cases.

Open Discussion on Community Issues –

Commissioner Jenkins suggested HIV testing at BBHI. The director reported the director of the State Commission confidentiality.

Commissioners Carwile and Jenkins respectively moved and seconded to adjourn @ 12:40 pm.