



LLOYD WINNECKE
MAYOR

City of Evansville – Vanderburgh County
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

DIANE CLEMENTS-BOYD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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**COMMISSION BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 20, 2017
CIVIC CENTER, ROOM 307**

MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Robert Dion
Alex Burton
Ruby McGlown

STAFF PRESENT:

Diane Clements-Boyd, Executive Director
Bonnie Fox

Chairperson Robert Dion 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.

Mayor Lloyd Winnecke and members of the police department were also in attendance.

Due to lack of a quorum no action was taken on the August minutes.

NEW BUSINESS:

Presentation:

Ken Bergeron, Sr. Conciliation Specialist
U.S. Department of Justice, Community Relations Services

Mr. Bergeron explained the mission of his agency. He explained that the U.S. Department of Justice Community Relations Services has ten (10) regions across the country and his jurisdiction is Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin. He also provided a slide presentation and handouts to use as a planning resource. Mr. Bergeron shared that when there is an incident in his region his job is to address the problem.

He reported on the national response plan held in Washington, DC on how to deal with hate rallies, as they seem to be occurring more often. He explained that when a rally is being planned in a particular region the person responsible for the region will contact the chief of police to see if there is a plan in place. If the chief tells them they plan to address the situation themselves, the conciliator informs the chief of suggestions and planning procedures, they may want to follow.

Mr. Bergeron reported that it is best to relay information on social media so that the news media and the community can get current and accurate information. He asked Director Clements-Boyd to share his handouts electronically.

Mr. Bergeron also reported that some communities have formed police advisory boards or citizen review boards. He reported that Gary has a police advisory commission and the commission does an annual report that they put on line for residents to fill out on how well the police are doing. The report is summarized and given back to the police department to put into their annual report. Gary has a mediation program in which a complaint is filed and the complainant may want to meet and talk with the officer. It goes through the review board who will set that up and possibly resolve the differences. Mr. Bergeron reported that the program is not fully implemented and the mayor of Gary is holding four (4) public meetings and should probably finish the middle of October and she wants everyone in Gary to have feedback before it actually gets started.

The mayor thanked Mr. Bergeron for the presentation and Sgt. Jason Cullum reminded all that the police department is not opposed to improvement and they are open to individuals looking at what the department is doing.

OLD BUSINESS:

Annual Dinner, October 3, 2017 –

Chairperson Dion reminded commissioners that this is the last meeting before the dinner and the director reported the deadline for the dinner count is due by Monday, September 25th. The director reported that confirmed sponsors include Vectren, ONB, Toyota and Fifth Third Bank. Director Clements-Boyd reported that four (4) nominations had been received for the diversity awards. The committee will meet on Friday morning @ 8:30 at the HRC office.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

The director presented her monthly report for August.

Meeting was adjourned @ 12:40 pm.