



LLOYD WINNECKE
MAYOR

City of Evansville – Vanderburgh County
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

DIANE CLEMENTS-BOYD
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**COMMISSION BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 25, 2017
CIVIC CENTER, ROOM 307**

MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Robert Dion
Alex Burton
Dan Carwile
Tim Black
Estella Moss
Henrietta Jenkins

STAFF PRESENT:

Diane Clements-Boyd, Executive Director
Jamila Smith

Kyle Biesecker, Commission Counsel

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.

It was properly moved and seconded by Commissioners Carwile and Jenkins respectively to approve the minutes of the September meeting. Commissioners voted unanimously. Commissioners also moved, seconded and unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the August meeting, which had not been acted upon due to lack of a quorum at the September meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sponsorship Request –

African American Museum's Colour of Humanity Gala is Saturday October 28 and HRC has been contacted regarding a sponsorship.

HRC has supported the event in the past as a Supporter Sponsor level at \$500. It was properly moved and seconded by Commissioners Jenkins and Black respectively to sponsor the Gala at the Supporter level. Commissioners voted unanimously.

Administrative Law Judge – There was discussion regarding utilizing an Administrative Law Judge to assist with hearings. Kyle Biesecker recommended retired judge, William G. Hussmann, Jr. After some discussion on the expectations and duties of the ALJ, Attorney Biesecker and Director Clements-Boyd recommended tabling the matter until the director obtained additional information from other agencies that utilize an administrative law judge in the adjudication process.

NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet –

It was properly moved and seconded to purchase eight (8) tickets and a half page ad totally \$330.00 for the NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet. Commissioners voted unanimously to support the event.

OLD BUSINESS:

Annual Dinner Debrief –

A written report was not yet available. However, the director reported that the staff suggested utilizing tickets, which were used in past years in an effort to get people seated faster. There was a complaint from a member of the public because one of the presenters, a wheel chair user, did not speak from the podium.

The annual dinner was taped but the edited tape has not been received. There have been numerous calls to purchase the tape which is not possible due to the contract with American Program Bureau. The tape is only to be used for educational purposes. Director Clements-Boyd reported that Commissioner Black's suggestion to announce the winners before the dinner went well.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

The director presented her monthly report for September.

The director reported that her report showed that there had been three (3) disability cases in September and they were transferred to EEOC. She had reported to the commission at an earlier meeting that these cases would stay with the commission for investigation but the three cases were transferred due to conflict of interest and jurisdiction. Director Clements-Boyd also reported that EEOC State and Local Coordinator has informed that the Evansville HRC can process age cases as well. The coordinator is of the opinion that since age is in the HRC ordinance and is not required to be in the state ordinance, therefore, the cases can be investigated locally.

Director Clements-Boyd received notification from HUD that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with HUD has been extended to September 26, 2022 which means the funding HRC receives from HUD is safe as long as HRC abides with the guidelines set forth by HUD. HRC will continue to be monitored yearly by HUD.

Counsel Report – Kyle Biesecker, Esq.

Attorney Biesecker explained to commissioners that the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) would be utilized when cases go to a public hearing. He explained that the commission has three probable cause cases scheduled next year, two (2) in April, one (1) in May and possibly more.

Commissioners’ Remarks

The Diversity Lecture Series has two (2) events scheduled in November. State Senator Eddie Melton will be at the African American Museum on Monday, November 13 on behalf of the statewide initiative Ten One Hundred in an effort to get more people of color interested in state legislature and to run for office. The tickets are \$25.00 and sponsorships are available.

The Human Rights Campaign, the largest LGBTQ Human Rights organization issued results for the Municipal and Equality Index. Evansville has worked hard to get the number up and is now one of the top cities in the state. The mayor is pleased with the results.

There will be a speaker on Monday, October 30 at University of Evansville who will speak on criminal justice reform.

Commissioner Henrietta Jenkins announced that Progressive Holy Temple is celebrating the Pastor and First Lady’s Anniversary and on Friday, all women are asked to wear a hat to surprise the First Lady of the church. Service will start promptly at 7 pm.

Meeting was adjourned.

XX

CONGRATULATIONS TO DIRECTOR DIANE CLEMENTS-BOYD FOR BEING ELECTED MIDWEST REPRESENTATIVE TO THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL HUMAN RIGHTS AGENCIES (IAOHRA).