



LLOYD WINNECKE MAYOR

City of Evansville – Vanderburgh County

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

DIANE CLEMENTS-BOYD **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

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COMMISSION BOARD MEETING **FEBRUARY 22, 2017 CIVIC CENTER, ROOM 307**

MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Alex Burton

Ruby McGlown Tim Black

Jason Miner

Henrietta Jenkins

Charnika Baltzell

Dan Carwile

Estella Moss

Zachary Kiefer

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 Carwile and Baltzell respectively properly moved and seconded to accept the minutes of the January meeting with two (2) corrections. Commissioners voted unanimously to accept the January minutes as corrected.

BUSINESS:

Annual Dinner –

The director provided information on the Annual Dinner set for October 3, 2017. The director had to choose that date due to her being appointed Midwest Representative of the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) and the IAOHRA conference is the week prior to October 3 and she must attend. The director has not made contact with Rev. Barber, President of North Carolina NAACP, nor has she received a fee for Rev. Barber.

The director made contact with Percy Green, civil rights activist from St. Louis. He is interested in speaking at the annual dinner. The director explained the cost of transportation would be minimal and the fee may not be expensive if the commission selected Mr. Green for the dinner speaker. The director reported he is 82 years old and currently very active in civil rights in the St. Louis area. Mr. Green, known for climbing to the top of the unfinished St. Louis Arch in 1964 and protesting lack of African Americans at the work site. Mr. Green was arrested, posted bond, went to work the same day at McDonnell Douglas. His employer terminated Mr. Green from his job one week later. He filed a discrimination suit against the company and the case went to the Supreme Court. HRC Commissioners are concerned that his name is not well known and he may not be a drawing card for the event. Contact the director with suggestions or recommendations for potential speakers.

New Commissioner Training –

March 17 is date that has been set for training, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm at Central Library Browning Room. The director reported Jeremy Sells, Program Manager from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), Philip Shelton, Regional Director of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Regional Director of the Promise Zone, representatives from Indiana Civil Rights Commission (ICRC) and the Department of Justice (DOJ) will attend the training.

Public Hearings – Update

Ross v. Shannon Glen Apartments –

Rescheduled to April 24-25. Five (5) commissioners are needed to attend and must stay throughout the entire proceeding. The complainant does have an attorney. Witness and exhibit lists are due by April 3. Attorney Kent has hopes of trying two (2) cases together as they are against the same respondent and represented by same attorney. ICRC may do training for public hearing at the commissioner training. It may be possible to get Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) to make an appearance during the training.

Community Outreach and Education –

School-to-Prison-Pipeline -

Director Clements-Boyd reminded commissioners of the School-To-Prison-Pipeline Forum on February 23 at Zion Baptist Church. There are several people who have responded and willing to participate on the panel i.e. Judge Brett Niemeier, Juvenile Court Judge; Karen Ragland, EVSC Board Member; Marcus Head, Director of Youth Care Center; Probation Officers, Social Status and HRC Commissioners to name a few. Shelby Coates of WEVV 44 News will be the moderator for the event.

The director reported that Judge Marcrum, who has been working with the Indiana Supreme Court Commission on Race and Gender Fairness to sponsor a meeting at Ivy

Tech on March 1. They are examining the judicial system and the handling of race and gender issues.

Ordinance Revisions –

Has not been drafted, Attorney Kent will work with the City Attorney to get this done.

DIRECTOR REPORT:

The director presented her monthly report for January.

Director Clements-Boyd reported on hate crimes and reported that Indiana is one of five (5) states that does not have hate crime laws.

The director reported on Senate Bill 558, a real estate bill to add an occupancy standard in Indiana. The bill states that two (2) people in a bedroom is standard. If the law passed, it could affect the funding HRC receives from HUD.

Commissioners Jenkins and Carwile respectively moved and seconded to adjourn.