



LLOYD WINNECKE
MAYOR

City of Evansville – Vanderburgh County
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

DIANE CLEMENTS-BOYD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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**COMMISSION BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 25, 2017
CIVIC CENTER, ROOM 307**

MINUTES

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

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

STAFF PRESENT:

Diane Clements-Boyd, Executive Director
Bonnie Fox

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 December meeting. Commissioners voted unanimously to accept the December minutes as presented.

NEW BUSINESS:

Swearing-in –

Ashten Stenftenagel of the City Clerk's office attended to swear in new and reappointed commissioners.

New Commissioner Training –

The director provided two (2) dates March 15 and March 17 as possible dates for the training. The director reported that the Program Manager from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) is planning to be in Evansville March 16 to deliver presentation to the Evansville Area Human Resource Association, the reason for choosing the two dates hoping that he will attend. The director will invite members of Indiana Civil Rights Commission (ICRC), Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Department of Justice (DOJ) to attend the training. Director Clements-Boyd asked commissioners to provide an alternative date if the aforementioned dates are not conducive. The training will be 9:00 am – 1:00 pm.

OLD BUSINESS:

Annual Dinner –

The director provided information on the Annual Dinner for the newly appointed commissioners. September 26, 28 and October 3, 2017 are the recommended dates for the Annual Dinner. The director has attempted to contact Rev. Barber, President of North Carolina NAACP but has received no confirmation nor fee for Rev. Barber.

Public Hearings – Update

Ross v. Shannon Glen Apartments –

The public hearing scheduled for January 17-18, 2017 rescheduled to April 24-25, 2017. Five (5) commissioners are needed to attend and must day throughout the entire proceeding.

Community Outreach and Education –

The director provided the commissioners a calendar of events planned for HRC in 2017.

School-to-Prison-Pipeline –

Director Clements-Boyd and Chairperson Dion are members of The Indiana Advisory Committee to the US Commission on Civil Rights. The commission did a study on the disproportionate numbers children being suspended, expelled and ultimately subject to the criminal justice system because of the zero tolerance policy and other issues within school corporations. The problem is not specific to Indiana but throughout the United States. The study revealed a disproportionate number of African American boys and children with disabilities in correctional facilities due to these policies. The report states the problems and provides recommendations and best practices. The director received the final report in January and will email the report to the commissioners. The Indiana Consortium of State and Local Human Rights Agencies received a grant from the Lumina Foundation to educate the communities on the phenomena. Gary, South Bend, Indianapolis and Evansville are planning forums to educate the community.

Ordinance Revisions –

A third party found that the Human Relation Commission (HRC) Ordinance does not provide employment action for sexual orientation and gender identity, which was added to the ordinance in 2011 and revised in 2016. HRC will make changes to the ordinance to add a definition of employment discrimination and veteran status. The County does not provide protection based on sexual orientation or gender identity. Anyone can suggest changes to the ordinance and the City Council can elect to accept the changes or not.

DIRECTOR REPORT:

The director presented her monthly report for December.

The director discussed the EEOC Workshare Agreement and EEOC deems that Evansville shall not investigate disability and age complaints under the agreement. Director Clements-Boyd reported that a complaint filed in the HRC office after 90 days is transferred to EEOC or ICRC.

Commissioners Burton and Munoz respectively moved and seconded to adjourn at 12:39 pm.