

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MINUTES

October 20, 2022, 4:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers

PRESENT: COMMISSION CHAIR Nikki Garry
VICE CHAIR Byron Hansbro
COMMISSIONERS Joyce Keller, Jerry Pelz

ABSENT: Richard Zaker and Vivian Goodman

ALSO PRESENT: HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER Penny Rogers
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Sherry Beasley

I. Call to Order

Commission Chair Garry called the meeting to order at 4:00p.m.

A. Roll Call

Three out of six Commissioners were present at the time of roll call. Commission Chair Garry declared a quorum does not exist to approve business. Vice Chair Hansbro entered the meeting at 4:01 p.m. Commission Chair Garry declared a quorum does now exist to conduct and approve business.

Commission Chair Garry called on new Commissioner Pelz to introduce himself.

II. Appearance of Citizens

The following citizen provided comments to the Commission: Abeer Motan.

III. Approval of September 15, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Commissioner Keller to approve the minutes, seconded by Vice Chair Hansbro. Upon roll call, Commissioners Joyce Keller, Vice Chair Hansbro, and Commission Chair Garry voted aye and Commissioner Pelz abstained. Commission Chair Garry declared the motion carried.

IV. Approval of September 22, 2022, Special Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Commissioner Keller to approve the minutes, seconded by Vice Chair Hansbro. Upon roll call, Commissioners Joyce Keller, Vice Chair Hansbro, and Commission Chair Garry voted aye and Commissioner Pelz abstained. Commission Chair Garry declared the motion carried.

V. Monthly Activity Report & Summary of Cases

Human Resources Manager Penny Rogers provided a monthly status report of cases. (Exhibit A)

VI. Unfinished Business

Commission Chair Garry called for Unfinished Business.

A. 2023 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. activities (January)

- Date
 - Monday, January 16, 2023
- Venue
 - Decatur Civic Center Theater, 2nd floor
- Speaker
 - Rich Hansen, teacher at Mt. Zion High School
 - Theme – Teaching Our Past Improves our Future
- Student Contest
 - Essay, Poem, Drawing and Short Film
 - Theme – Now is the Time to Live the Dream
- Other
 - March
 - Start at noon from Mueller park and will march to the Decatur Civic Center
 - Program
 - Start at 1p.m.
 - Snacks
 - Prepackaged snacks

Commissioner Garry stated the ad hoc committee for the contest needs to be revisited. The Commissioners that were on the committee are no longer on the Commission. Commissioners Keller and Pelz volunteered to read the essays and poems.

Discussion followed regarding the program:

- Mrs. Rogers will reach out to the Mayor
- Commission Chair Garry will reach out to saxophonist
- Commissioner Keller will reach out to Rev. Dr. Paul from Grace United Methodist Church for opening and benediction prayer
- Ms. Beasley will ask around for a student to sing the National Anthem
- Commission Chair Gary suggested giving the speaker a gift basket, gift card or a donation. She also suggested having a one-page program to hand out.

Discussion followed regarding the snacks:

- Commissioner Keller suggested to call it refreshments not snacks. She also suggested to have a celebration cake with Dr. King's picture.
- Ms. Beasley suggested having a cupcake cake.
- Commissioner Keller will check on the cupcake cake.
- Commission Chair Garry suggested having the cupcakes in individual containers, individual juices, and small bottles of water

Discussion followed regarding the March:

- Commissioner Pelz suggested starting the March at 12:30 p.m. and starting the program at 1:30 p.m.
- Commission Chair Garry suggested starting the March at 10:00 a.m. and starting the program at 11:00 a.m.

This will be decided on at the next meeting.

VII. New Business

There was none.

VIII. Other Business

There was none.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, Commissioner Keller made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Pelz. Upon call of the roll, Commissioners Joyce Keller, Jerome Pelz, Vice Chair Byron Hansbro, and Commission Chair Garry voted aye. Commission Chair Garry declared the meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.