

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MINUTES

March 16, 2023, 4:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers

PRESENT: CHAIRPERSON PRO TEM Richard Zaker
COMMISSIONERS Joyce Keller, Vivian Goodman, Jerry Pelz, Mark Schleeter, and Minnie Walker

ABSENT: COMMISSIONER Tracey Kelly

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

I. Call to Order

Human Resources Manager Penny Rogers called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

A. Roll Call

Six out of seven Commissioners were present at the time of roll call. Human Resources Manager Rogers declared a quorum does exist to conduct and approve business.

Commission Chairperson Pro Tem Zaker welcomed Commissioner Minnie Walker to the Commission.

II. Appearance of Citizens

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

III. Approval of February 16, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Pelz made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Keller. Upon roll call, Commissioners Vivian Goodman, Joyce Keller, Jerry Pelz, Mark Schleeter, and Commission Chairperson Pro Tem Richard Zaker voted aye. Commissioner Minnie Walker abstained. Commission Chairperson Pro Tem Zaker declared the motion carried.

IV. Monthly Activity Report & Summary of Cases

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

Commissioner Pelz wanted to know why harassment due to race is not included in Chapter 28 of the City Code and asked if it can be added. Mrs. Rogers responded that it is a lengthy process to revise the City Code and the Commission must work with the City's legal department. Mrs. Rogers will ask Mr. Spannaus to attend the next meeting to discuss the particulars.

V. Unfinished Business

Commission Chairperson Pro Tem Zaker called for Unfinished Business.

There is none.

VI. New Business

Commission Chairperson Pro Tem Zaker called for New Business.

There is none.

VII. Other Business

Commission Chairperson Pro Tem Zaker called for Other Business and stated since there are a couple of new Commissioners, he would like each Commissioner to state their name and talk about their involvement in the community.

Commission Chairperson Pro Tem Zaker mentioned Juneteenth and wanted to know when planning should start for the event. Mrs. Rogers stated someone should reach out to Mrs. Hood to see about the date and if the Commission could have a table. Chairperson Pro Tem Zaker stated he will reach out.

Chairperson Pro Tem Zaker stated he believes Commissioner Keller suggested honoring Mr. Jimmy Taylor at the next Martin Luther King, Jr. event. He suggested Commissioner Keller get with other Commissioners to make suggestions on how this could be accomplished. Commissioner Keller agreed.

Chairperson Pro Tem Zaker mentioned March is Women's History Month. Millikin University will have films about and by women today at 6:30 in the University Commons.

Commissioner Schleeter mentioned Decatur Pride is having a fundraising dinner at Richland Community College April 15 from 6pm to 8pm at the Bistro. The tickets are \$25. Contact him if interested.

VIII. Adjournment

There being no further business, Commissioner Schleeter made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Pelz. Upon call of the roll, Commissioners Joyce Keller, Vivian Goodman Jerry Pelz, Minnie Walker, and Chairperson Pro Tem Richard Zaker, voted aye. Commission Chairperson Pro Tem Zaker declared the meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m.