



ROCK ISLAND
HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMISSION

Mission: The mission of the Rock Island Human Rights Commission is to bring about greater public awareness of the ethnic and cultural diversity that exists within the community and to ensure that all humans are treated equally, regardless of race gender, religion, age, or disability.

Rock Island Human Rights Commission Special Meeting Minutes
Meeting was held in person with a virtual option
March 16, 2023; 5:00 pm

Commission Members Present

Thurgood Brooks
Tamara Felden
Gregg Hampton
Christiana Headley, Secretary
Janet Lockhart Johnson, Chair
David Levin
Jason Lopez, Vice Chair
Margie Mejia-Caraballo

Commission Members Absent

Randall McMurray
Sara Meyer

Commission Members Virtual

Steven Andich
Vince Thomas

Staff Present

Jerry Jones, City Liaison

Public Present

Stacey Boggness

AGENDA ITEM #1 – Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions

- Janet called the meeting to order at 5:00pm

AGENDA ITEM #2 – Public Comment

- Stacey Boggness, member of the public, Stacy shared a complaint against a landlord. She has been renovating the house she is renting. A complaint was made and her house was boarded up by the city and

DCFS took her children. She and her children got locked in/boarded in the house for 3 hours. Stacy feels her rights have been violated by the city and DCFS. She doesn't know who to turn to for justice. She states that she has contacted Dylan Parker, her alderman, and she has not received a response. We gave her a complaint form and encouraged her to file a complaint with the City of Rock Island and State of Illinois. Christiana emailed her links to each form.

AGENDA ITEM #3 – Approval of Minutes from February Meeting. David made a motion to approve the minutes. ??? seconded. Unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – Old Business

- Ordinance update and discussion about procedure. Tamara wants to know from the group if we should give to the attorneys to develop a timeline of the research procedure.
- Tamara developed a procedural checklist and discussed the possibility of form letters that need to be developed.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – Complaints

AGENDA ITEM #6 – New Business

- New Business: **3/24/23 Fair Housing Realtor Breakfast at 8am at MLK Jr Center.** There will also be politicians and Senator Halpin. Should be over by 9-9:30. Sign up online.
- Continuing education item
- New member discussion and recommendation.
- Gregg shared that this is going to be his last meeting. We need to choose 2 - 3 new members. We have several applicants to review and consider. Both Gregg and Thurgood highly recommend Cory Holloway. Gregg made a motion to rank all the candidates, so we can rank them and invite the top 4 to see if they still have an interest in joining the Human Rights Commission. Jerry can then make recommendations to the mayor. Tamara seconded. Unanimous.
- Transgender day of visibility, 3/31/23 at Clock Inc. 5pm-8pm

AGENDA ITEM #7 – Commissioner Comments

- Discussed our book “How to be an antiracist,” by Ibram Kendi, Chapter 1. Next time read Chapter 2 and be prepared to discuss.

AGENDA ITEM #8 – Adjourn

Tamara made a motion to adjourn. Thurgood seconded. Janet adjourned the meeting at 6:11 pm.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday 4/20/23 630 Martin Luther King Dr. Rock Island, IL 61201 at **5:00 p.m.**
The Rock Island Human Rights Commission meets the third Thursday of each month.