

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 17, 2022; 5:00 pm**

Commission Members Present

Stephen Andich
Thurgood Brooks
Margie Mejia-Carabello
Tamara Felden
Gregg Hampton
Christiana Headley, Secretary
David Levin
Janet Lockhart Johnson, Chair
Sara Meyer

Commission Members Absent

Jason Lopez, Vice Chair
Vince Thomas

Staff Present

Jerry Jones, City Liaison

Public Present

None

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

Meeting called to order by Janet at 5:00 pm

AGENDA ITEM #2 – Public Comment

None

AGENDA ITEM #3 – Approval of Minutes

David motioned to approve February 2022, Margie seconded, Minutes approved unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – Old Business

- 81-2021-KW: Update from Stephen and Tamara about meeting with Supply Chain Services and Solutions on Monday 2/21/22 at 10am. Tamara and Stephen came to an agreement with Supply Chain Services. The company has agreed to pay the complainant 2 months salary. The company will update their website to be more clear. The complainant signed the agreement today. Tamara made a motion to close the case, seconded by Christiana, unanimously approved. A letter will be sent to the company and complainant.
- New member update: Jerry sent a memo and plans for it to be on the city agenda for the next meeting along with the ordinance changes. Both candidates have completed their application.
 - Cathy Jordan
 - Randy McMurray
- Member roles with new ordinance & ordinance approval updates
 - If it goes ahead, it would be helpful to have the attorneys here for the next meeting. Jerry states there is a balance between judicial and mediation.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – New Business

- Further Education opportunities
 - David Levin mentioned the realtor breakfast on 4/28 @ 8:30 am at the MLK Jr Center.
 - Discussion ensued regarding training in our new roles and responsibilities and consultation from legal counsel. Key points include:
 - Abstaining from taking new cases until we have training.
 - David suggested a program that the realtors are a part of that does a yearly training.
 - Thurgood recommended referring those complaints to the state so complainants are still being serviced in a timely manner.
 - Tamara recommended reaching out to other cities to borrow their training sources that we could begin utilizing.
 - Sara recommended a mediation group that may be able to offer training.
 - Gregg recommended standardized and recognized training.
 - Request for standards from city attorneys
 - Steve-this commission already exists and operates, we will learn how to function in a new way. There are some changes, but we need to forge ahead and continue taking cases.
 - Christiana recommended doing some mock cases to better understand our roles and responsibilities.
 - Jerry will invite city attorney to next meeting and we can go through the process. Christiana will add to the agenda a mock case that we can practice going through the process. Jerry will send commission members a copy of the latest ordinance for all of us to review.

AGENDA ITEM #6 – Commissioner Comments

- Thurgood Brooks recommended reaching out to the community to promote the commission. Jerry has materials that we can distribute into the community when we are ready to promote the new commission. Thurgood also recommended a new story or media blitz. Jerry recommended someone to be the “face” and spokesperson of the commission. Janet recommended having a male and female representative. David and Janet both volunteered. There will be further discussion.

AGENDA ITEM #7 – Adjourn

Margie made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:37 pm

NEXT MEETING: **April 21, 2022**, 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.