

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
Meeting Minutes
Meeting was held virtually due to Covid-19 restrictions
June 17, 2021; 5:00 pm**

Commission Members Present

Steven Andich
Thurgood Brooks
Tamara Felden
Christiana Headley, Secretary
Quincy Jones, Chair
Janet Lockhart Johnson, Vice Chair
David Levin
Jason Lopez
Clayton Peterson
Vince Thomas

Commission Members Absent

Gregg Hampton
Margie Mejia-Carabello

Staff Present

Jerry Jones, City Liaison

Others Present

None

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

Meeting called to order by Quincy at 5:03 pm

AGENDA ITEM #2 – Public Comment

None

AGENDA ITEM #3 – Approval of Minutes

David motioned to approve April 2021 minutes, Clayton seconded, Minutes approved unanimously

AGENDA ITEM #4 – Old Business

01-2021-DC: After reviewing the complaint, David made a motion to accept the complaint and pursue an investigation. Jason seconded the motion. All members were in favor unanimously. Both David and Jason volunteered to contact the complainant and begin the investigation process.

Ordinance discussion:

Steve shared his thoughts on the proposed ordinance and subpoena power.

Tamara-subpoena process work, provisions for training, recommended devising 4-5 specific questions to assure the ordinance is accomplishing what the commission needs it to. Recommends a special meeting requested for Thursday, July 8, 2021 with Hector Lareau. Commission members should send questions to Jerry for this meeting in regards to the ordinance.

David-special meeting with City Council in August that may address additional costs

AGENDA ITEM #5 – Officer Election Process

Currently there is a one year term and only the chair and vice chair are elected positions. Jason made a motion to have officer elections in April for the three positions (chair, vice chair and secretary), the position be two years, should someone leave the position before the end of their term, the commission could vote someone into the position.

After discussion, Jason made a motion for an amended motion to change the term of the position from two years to one year. Voting will take place at the end of the one year term. Tamara seconded the amended motion, consensus.

Jason made a motion to open the meeting for nominations for officer positions. Quincy seconded the motion.

Jerry reached out to Janet about her interest in being considered for the chair position. Janet agreed she is interested in the position.

AGENDA ITEM #6 – Officer Nomination and Election

Steve motioned to nominate Janet Lockhart-Johnson as the new chair, seconded by Jason, consensus

David motioned to nominate Jason Lopez as vice chair, seconded by Tamara, consensus

AGENDA ITEM #8 – Membership Discussion

This is Quincy's last meeting, so a new member will need to be recommended to the mayor.

Jerry has a potential candidate, Kathy Jordan, who works in housing. She is interested in the position.

David proposed we may want someone in the medical field as a member.

David offered to reach out to Chase from The Clock to see if he may know someone from the LGBTQ+ community.

Process is an online application on the City of Rock Island website. If someone is interested, refer them to Jerry to fill out the application.

AGENDA ITEM #8 – Commissioner Comments

David thanked Quincy for his service to this commission over the years.

AGENDA ITEM #9 – Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 5:59pm

NEXT MEETING: **July 15, 2021**, 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.