

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2018

City Hall

161 W. Michigan Ave.

Jackson, MI 49201

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Alice Lewis followed by Roll Call by Valerie Cochran-Toops.

Members Present: Miriam Brown Dorsey, Russell Jennings, Melissa Morse, Valerie Cochran-Toops, Alice Lewis, Jessica Embury, Suzanne Mure, and Rev. John Clemons.

Members Absent: John Hawthorne (excused).

Ex Officio Present: Cheryl Ragland

Ex Officio Absent: James Johnson Jr. (excused), Krissy Kerwin (excused).

Staff: John Willis, Elmer Hitt, Director of Police and Fire Services.

Adoption of the Agenda: Jessica Embury made a motion to amend the agenda: removing IX-Committee Reports and under XI-New Business remove item (b)3 Development Committee and add item (c) Committee Reports in order discuss plans for the picnic. Sue Mure supported the motion. Motion carried.

J. Embury made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Sue Mure supported the motion. Motion carried.

Citizen Comment: One participant with invitation to the South Side Reunion to be held on August 10-11, 2018, also requesting donations from the City-HRC and provided information to the commissioners.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Miriam Brown Dorsey to approve the regular meeting minutes for April 18, 2018, Sue Mure seconded the motion with corrections made for spelling of Rev. Clemons name in both April 18, 2018 and April 19, 2018, minutes, correcting Melissa Morse's attendance at the meetings, and the adjournment of the regular meeting at 7:52 p.m., second floor, City Hall. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Miriam Brown Dorsey to approve the special meeting minutes for April 18, 2018, Rev. Clemons seconded the motion with the correction of the name of the Project Development Committee and the correction of the spelling of Rev. Clemons name, and the adjournment time of 7:47 p.m. on the 10th floor of City Hall. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Miriam Brown Dorsey to approve the special meeting minutes for April 19, 2018. Jessica Embury seconded the motion with corrections. The motion carried.

Community Liaison Police Officer: Chief E. Hitt reported on the Citizen Academy that started this evening, the hiring of two new officers on May 21, 2018, with three more positions to fill and on July 1st a fourth option to hire another officer. He also reported of a Reserve Officer going to the Academy, received 20 applications for Cadets which is in process. He then reported on the recent shootings in the city with decisions coming from the prosecutor and under investigation. He reported on a chemical assault at the end of April also under investigation.

Old Business:

Election of 2018 Officers. Officiated by Staff, John Willis.

Motion was made to accept the nomination for someone that was excused made by Jessica Embury seconded by Miriam Brown Dorsey. Motion carried to accept a nomination from someone excused 5-3.

Position of Chair: John Clemons nominated Alice Lewis. Suzanne Mure nominated John Hawthorne. Votes for Alice Lewis; Yes; Valerie Cochran-Toops, John Clemons, Alice Lewis. No; Miriam Brown Dorsey, Jessica Embury, Russell Jennings, Melissa Morse, Suzanne Mure. Votes for John Hawthorne; Yes; Miriam Brown Dorsey, Jessica Embury, Russell Jennings, Melissa Morse, Suzanne Mure. No; Valerie Cochran Toops, John Clemons, Alice Lewis. John Hawthorne elected to Chair vote 5-3.

Position of Vice Chair: Russell Jennings nominated Jessica Embury and no other nominations presented and Jessica Embury elected unanimously for Vice Chair.

Position of Secretary: Valerie Cochran-Toops nominated Suzanne Mure and no other nominations presented and Suzanne Mure was elected unanimously for Secretary.

New Business:

Jessica Embury chaired the rest of the meeting as vice chair.

Approve Narrative from April 19, 2018 Special Meeting. Motion made by Valerie Cochran-Toops and seconded by John Clemons. Motion carried.

2018 Committee Selection:

Event/Public Relations: J. Embury, M. Morse, S. Mure. Chair: J. Embury.

Policy/Complaint Committee: J. Hawthorne, M. Brown Dorsey, V. Toops, A. Lewis. Chair: V. Toops.

Nominating Committee: R. Jennings, J. Embury, J. Clemons, V. Toops. Chair: J. Clemons.

Teressa Delph Essay/Oratorical Committee: V. Toops, A. Lewis, C. Ragland. Chair: C. Ragland.

Project Development Committee: J. Hawthorne, C. Ragland, R. Jennings, M. Morse, M. Brown Dorsey. Chair: C. Ragland.

Committee Reports:

J. Embury reporting a date of August 18, and motion to combine with back to school and HRC picnic. Final name to be determined. Time from 11a.m. -2 p.m. with plans having lists of groups and resources. J. Embury reported received a grant for \$500 and the city to provide \$400 allotment for food for contributions. The Center for Family Health to donate \$1,000. Motion made by M. Brown Dorsey to accept the event plan for August 18, 2018. HRC to combine the picnic with back to school function (name to be determined) for approval. R. Jennings seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Comments

Motion to Adjourn: Motion made by S. Mure, seconded by M. Brown Dorsey.

Respectfully submitted



Suzanne Mure
Secretary