

## **Human Relations Commission**

Meeting Minutes

August 15, 2018

City Hall

161 W. Michigan Ave.

Jackson, MI 49201

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by John Hawthorne followed by Roll Call by S. Mure.

**Members Present:** Valerie Cochran-Toops, Miriam Brown Dorsey, Jessica Embury, John Hawthorne, Russell Jennings, Julia Josling, Suzanne Mure, Cheryl Ragland.

**Members Absent:** Melissa Morse (excused)

**Ex-Officio Present:** James Johnson Jr.

**Ex Officio Absent:** Krissy Kerwin

**Staff:** John Willis.

**Adoption of the Agenda:** Motion by V. Toops, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ragland. Motion carried.

**Citizen Comment:** George Mohring with an invite to the ribbon cutting for the new Community Orchard on Mechanic Street.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion to amend by J. Josling, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Embury. Motion carried with corrections.

**Community Liaison Police Officer:** None.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### Events/Public Relations:

**Back To School Event:** Was a great success and thanks to all who participated. We were able to service 658 people and gave out 450 backpacks, 15 vendors participated. We are looking at a tentative date of August 16, 2019 from 3 p.m. -7 p.m. to be set up with DDA final approval. The next meeting for this event will be February 2019 (see report submitted).

**Challenge Day:** (MLK Breakfast) Date of September 13, 2018 at 7:30 a.m. at Culvers. HRC is encouraged to volunteer/facilitate.

**Pride Event:** To be held Saturday, August 1, 2018, to work with the City from 10 a.m. -2 p.m. Looking for volunteers.

**Domestic Violence Month:** Three meetings with Councilwoman Colleen Sullivan. Training for City employees to take place in September. A request for a shorter training

and waiting on funding and the City Manager. On October 18, 2018, Aware Shelter event at Jackson Symphony Orchestra. 50-75 people focus on effects on children, learning and others. Looking for sponsors.

**Harold White Sr. Memorial Volunteer Award Breakfast:** Date of the event will be October 17, 2018 at Cascades Manor House 7:30 a.m. To date, no nominations have been received and still trying to get ads. A motion made by S. Mure to change the deadline for nomination date deadline to September 7, 2018. 2<sup>nd</sup> by M. Brown Dorsey. Motion carried.

**Candidate Forum:** Tentative date of October 10, 2018 or October 11, 2018 with the League of Woman Voters. More details to come.

**Policy Committee:** No complaints and no recommendations on policy changes at this time. Will make a recommendation for the 2019 Strategic Meeting.

**Project Committee:** Approval for letter of intent for the grant application was denied after a meeting the City Manager P. Burtch, J. Hawthorne, C. Ragland and M. Brown Dorsey. Discussion of monies and to take the burden off the city for those monies. A list given to the committee to work on disconnect with the City. The group will move forward with a definitive letter and detail of what they want done. Will need to meet with P. Burtch and D. Dobies to define what they want HRC to work specifically on, to appeal on the letter of intent and clarification of the intent, clarification of staffing, cost, person that the grant could cover. Diversity of Citizens and City Employees, the data from the last census has been approved by P. Burtch, just waiting on the data.

**Nominating Committee:** Vacancy for Ex-Officio will need to be posted with the view of filling the position as the Charter reads. Orientation meeting to be set up for the new members.

**Old Business:**

- A. Review the HRC procedures covered with purchasing and public releases.

**New Business:**

- A. Ideas for Community Outreach. The July 30, 2018 forum attendance had about 10 people with no conversation on the subject. The conversation on needs to better work with existing communities and suggestions. Lack of knowledge of what HRC does, listen to discussion.
- B. Discussion on brand wear for the HRC and follow up with information if HRC will have a table at the NAACP freedom banquet.

**Commissioner Comments:**

Motion to Adjourn: Motion to adjourn made by M. Brown Dorsey, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Josling. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Suzanne Mure".

Suzanne Mure  
Secretary