

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

City Hall

May 15, 2002

Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gilbert Blanks
Ed Peterson
Teresa Delph
Thomas Ramundo
Alice Lewis
Robert Whitman

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Rosemarie Herbert (exc.)
Kathleen Conley
Will Riley (exc.)

STAFF PRESENT:

Henry Jenkins, Staff
Lt. Mary Jo Kennedy, Police

1. Call to order: Meeting was called to order by Chairman Blanks at 6:30 p.m. Roll call was taken.
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes:
A motion was made by Robert Whitman to approve the April 17, 2002 minutes. The motion was supported by Alice Lewis. The motion carried.
3. Community Update/Chairperson's Correspondence/Staff Report –
Henry reported on a letter from the MDCR about the Civil rights partnership meeting scheduled for June 27, 2002 from 9:30 p.m. to 12:00 p.m., at the MDCR executive office located on the 7th floor commission room downtown Lansing. HRC Commissioners are urged to attend. Move by Robert Whitman. The motion was supported by Thomas Ramundo to accept the financial report and community update. The motion carried.
4. Community Reports –
Robert Whitman reported that he attended the Rainbow Alliance. Mr. & Mrs. Marshall were in attendance from the Rainbow Alliance. The purpose of Robert's attendance at the Rainbow Alliance was to give this group a status report of what we are doing in regards to the ordinance. Thomas Ramundo presented an idea to seek to have HRC adopt a statement of principle. The statement would be about maintaining a climate of hope, harmony and opportunity. A discussion followed Tom's statement. An ad hoc Committee meeting will be scheduled May 21, 2002, at 6:00 p.m., 14th floor, to discuss this idea further and what our next move will be to get the ordinance moved ahead.
5. Diversity Training -
Gilbert Blanks reported that in the next two weeks we can schedule a meeting for Tuesday, May 28th, 2002 at 8:00 a.m. for the HRC's Diversity Training Committee to meet. Community representatives will be invited to plan a Community Diversity Group for the community. It was reported underground railroad speaker Michele Johnson will be at Napoleon Branch Library May 17th at 6:00 p.m.

Re: Civil War Muster, Robert Whitman made a motion to approve the funds and let Mr. Thomas know that we can pay for a speaker. The motion was supported by Ed Peterson. The motion carried.

6. Labor and Industry –

Henry Jenkins reported a complaint and would advise Rosemarie Herbert. A meeting has been scheduled.

7. Public Relations -

Robert Whitman reported he will appear on WKHM talk back Jackson, a program where we report the activities we discuss at our meetings.

Robert Whitman made a motion that the chairman or his designee will make a quarterly status report of HRC activities to the City Council and be on the agenda. The motion was supported by Alice Lewis. The motion carried.

8. Designation of Memorial for Harold White –

Robert Whitman made a motion to recommend to city council to name one of the downtown parking ramps for Harold White. The motion was supported by Ed Peterson. The motion carried.

Michael Poole is organizing a meeting to brainstorm ideas to address minority-banking issues Saturday at 9:30 a.m., May 18, 2002, at 316 Adams Street.

Rev. Ramundo reported he is working on bringing a big revival to town, which will involve black and white churches. The meetings will take place September 7-12, 2002. There will be 84 churches at the fairground and they will have a speaker from New York. It's in the planning stage.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Teressa Delph
Secretary