

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 18, 2002

MEMBERS PRESENT

Gilbert Blanks
Kathleen Conley
Teressa Delph
Ed Peterson
Robert Whitman

MEMBERS ABSENT

Rosemarie Herbert (exc)
Alice Lewis (exc)
Thomas Ramundo (exc)
Will Riley (exc)

STAFF

Henry L. Jenkins
Lt. Mary Jo Kennedy, JPD

GUESTS

Darryl Mazur
Susan Milhoan, Chamber of
Commerce

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Blanks at 6:35 p.m. Roll call was taken.

2. CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Darryl Mazur introduced himself to the Commission and informed them that he is running for 12th District Court Judge.

Susan Milhoan, Greater Jackson Chamber of Commerce, spoke to the Commission about a proposed program commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King annually and celebrating what he meant to this country. She suggested a speaker and breakfast be held. A brief discussion took place regarding an award ceremony. A committee of HRC members and chamber will meet to discuss.

Lt. Mary Jo Kennedy, Jackson Police Department, answered questions from the HRC members. She reported that the Blackman Township officers have a right to travel through the City while their enforcement takes place outside the City. Lt. Kennedy also reported about the shooting at the Blair Apartment complex, and how it was handled.

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made by Robert Whitman to approve the August 21, 2002, minutes. The motion was supported by Ed Peterson. The motion carried.

Kathleen Conley dismissed herself at 7:20 p.m. Therefore, there was not a quorum. The Commission proceed as a committee of the whole.

4. COMMUNITY UPDATE/CHAIRMAN'S CORRESPONDENCE:

5. STAFF REPORT:

Staff reviewed the financial reports.

Staff reported that Evelyn Spears is conducting a workshop, "Dialogue Racism", November 15-17, 2002.

A Presbyterian Church member called and offered to donate some money toward a Diversity Training program.

He also reported that the HOSTS program at Allen School needs volunteers to mentor.

The Jackson Branch NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet will be held November 1, 2002, at Gene Davis & Sons Banquet and Convention Center.

Ed Peterson made a motion to accept the staff report. Robert Whitman supported the motion. Motion carried.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS:
Community Needs - No report.

Diversity Training - No report.

Proposed Civil Rights Ordinance - Robert Whitman reported he will continue to work on the language effort.

Labor and Industry - It was reported a mediation took place involving a person who lost their job, and the employer denied unemployment compensation. The mediation was not successful. She was advised to appeal through the MESC review process.

Public Relations and Information - Ed Peterson reported that he would like to see the Oneness of Humankind resolution be worked on, and present it to City Council again.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

8. NEW BUSINESS:

Gilbert Blanks appointed Kathleen Conley, Rosemarie Herbert, Ed Peterson and himself to a committee to meet with Susan Milhoan, Greater Jackson Chamber of Commerce, to plan a breakfast for Martin Luther King Day.

Gilbert asked that in November he would like for the Commissioners whose terms will expire in 2002 - Alice Lewis, Rosemarie Herbert and Kathleen Conley to write a resume. This will be presented to City Council for review before a recommendation is made to the Mayor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa Delph
Secretary