

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
City Hall
December 19, 2001
Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gilbert Blanks
Kathleen Conley
Teresa Delph
Rosemarie Herbert
Alice Lewis
Ed Peterson
Thomas Ramundo
Will D. Riley
Robert Whitman

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Sharon K. Hasen, Staff

GUEST:

George Thompson, Summit
Branch, Jackson District
Library

1. Call to order: Meeting was called to order by Chairman Blanks at 6:30 p.m. Roll call was taken.
2. Citizen Comment:
None.
3. Guest:
George Thompson, Summit Branch, Jackson District Library, introduced an idea for a Black History project called "Black History Alive," to be presented by Jacqueline Galloway-Blake, on Thursday, February 21, 2001. He asked for the HRC to support this project. He stated that the amount requested is \$375 with one or more presentation. Rosemarie Herbert suggested that Mr. Thompson might also approach Storyfest for funding as well as Jackson Public Schools. Ed Peterson said that he will meet with Mr. Thompson.
4. Police Liaison's Report:
No report.
5. Approval of Meeting Minutes:
A motion was made by Thomas Ramundo and supported by Will Riley to approve the minutes of November 21, 2001. Motion carried.

6. Chairman's Correspondence/Community Update -

Chairman Blanks distributed two worksheets as homework for the Human Relations Commissioners for the next meeting in January. One worksheet regarded Racial Profiling/Traffic Stop Statistics, and the other worksheet was for strategic planning. Chairman Blanks suggested that some community leaders be invited to the February regular meeting and share with them the HRC goals.

A meeting will be held on December 20 with the Police Department and the NAACP regarding Racial Profiling. The HRC has been officially invited. Chairman Blanks asked for volunteers to attend this meeting to ask questions of the Police Department. Teresa Delph, Alice Lewis, Robert Whitman, and Gilbert Blanks will attend. A lengthy discussion followed regarding Racial Profiling/Traffic Stop Statistics

Chairman Blanks also asked if HRC members would be interested in being included on an e-mail list to share information. He passed around a list for everyone to share their e-mail address if they wish to part of this.

7. Staff Report:

Staff reviewed the financial report. Will Riley made a motion to accept the Staff Report. Rosemarie Herbert supported the motion. The motion carried.

8. Committee Reports:

Community Needs Committee - Gilbert Blanks, Chairman

Gilbert Blanks reported that the mentoring program is going very well. A discussion followed regarding the mentoring program.

Teresa Delph reported that the Oratorical Contest will be held soon, and reminders will be sent to schools regarding this.

Labor and Industry Committee: Rosemarie Herbert, Chairman

No report.

Public Relations Committee: Ed Peterson, Chairman

Ed Peterson reported that he had contacted Spring Arbor College, and Jackson Community College to see if they had offered anything since September 11th for their students that might be helpful regarding the 9-11 incident. No one has returned his telephone calls.

Robert Whitman reported that he will be on a radio program on WKHM on Thursday at 10:45 a.m. following the regular HRC meeting to give a report about the HRC meeting.

Ad Hoc Committee - Civil Rights Ordinance

Chairman Blanks reported that he and staff will be meeting with some members of the Chamber of Commerce Board in January regarding the proposed Civil Rights Ordinance. A discussion followed regarding meeting with the City Councilmembers.

Ad Hoc Committee - Cluster Groups

The committee met with NCCJ representatives. Rosemarie Herbert reported that the HRC will send brochures out and will have a workshop of approximately six hours. The NCCJ will be the trainers. The workshop is scheduled for Saturday, January 26, 2002. This will be an all day workshop training for at least 20 people to train others to discuss racism. Several sites for the workshop were discussed. Also discussed were names to be invited to the workshop.

NEW BUSINESS:

A discussion took place regarding the designation of a memorial for Harold White.

Rosemarie Herbert made a motion to approve the Human Relations Commission meeting dates for 2002. Thomas Ramundo supported the motion. The motion carried. A discussion followed regarding the HRC holding their meetings in the community. It was decided that staff should contact City Councilmembers to see where they hold their neighborhood meetings and then decide whether to hold HRC meetings at these locations also. Other sites discussed were the Boos Center, and King Recreational Center.

Robert Whitman reported that he rode with Jackson Police officers for four hours to observe their work.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa Delph
Secretary