

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION  
City Hall  
October 18, 2000  
Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gilbert Blanks  
Teresa Delph  
Rosemarie Herbert  
Ed Peterson  
Will D. Riley  
Susan Smith  
Harold White

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Henry Jenkins, Staff

GUEST:

Dan Greer, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward  
Councilmember  
Les Schick, MSU Extension  
Cynthia Rogers

1. Call to order: Meeting was called to order by Chairman White at 6:30 p.m.
2. Guest:  
Cynthia Rogers expressed her interest in possibly serving on the HRC, and gave a brief background about herself.

Councilmember Greer was welcomed to the HRC meeting and was asked if he had any comments. He stated that he was glad to be at the meeting and was also glad that there was a schedule for Councilmembers to follow. He also expressed his appreciation for all of the HRC efforts.

3. Police Liaison's Report:  
No Police Report.
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes:  
Councilmember Greer asked why a recent meeting held with some HRC members and Councilmember Ludwig and himself were not mentioned in the last month's minutes. Staff stated that this meeting was a committee meeting, however, it could be included in the minutes. A motion was made by Rosemarie Herbert to approve the meeting minutes of September 20, 2000. Susan Smith supported the motion. Rosemarie Herbert withdrew her motion to approve the meeting minutes and made another motion to amend the September 20, 2000 meeting minutes to reflect that Commissioners Riley, Herbert, Delph and White, met with Councilmembers Dan Greer and Jerry Ludwig to discuss concerns and that copies of the amended minutes be sent to City Council. Will Riley supported the amended motion. Motion carried.

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5. Chairman's Correspondence/Community Update -  
Chairman White suggested that the issue of sexual harassment be on next month's agenda, because a policy statement should be made. Also the HRC needs to be aware of what the definition is. Staff indicated that he would contact the Michigan Department of Civil Rights and request some information on harassment.
6. Staff Report:  
No report.
7. Committee Reports:  
Community Needs Committee - Gilbert Blanks, Chairman  
No report.

Labor and Industry Committee: Rosemarie Herbert, Chairman

Staff reported that some new forms have been created to be used during mediations. Rosemarie Herbert reported that Henry Jenkins and Will Riley have been certified as mediators by the State.

Councilmember Greer inquired about the Larry Dixon complaint and what was the status of that complaint. He was provided with a copy of the complaint and Rosemarie Herbert reviewed the complaint and status of the complaint.

Public Relations Committee: Susan Smith, Chairman

Susan Smith reported that she and staff had been looking into having a web site made for the HRC. Staff clarified that this will be a link to the City's web site.

Ad Hoc Committee - Civil Rights Ordinance

No report.

Ad Hoc Committee - Nominating

A brief discussion took place regarding the two prospective members appointment to the HRC which will be on the October 24, 2000, agenda. The recommendations are Frederic Goff and Alice Lewis.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ed Peterson reported that he received a telephone call from a board member of the Junior Welfare League. In the past few years they have held a fund raiser to raise money to buy coats for poor children. The League needs volunteers to take the children shopping for coats. Staff suggested the Negro and Business Professional Women's Club would be a good source to look for volunteers. Also, the NAACP could possibly help. The contact is Paula Freege, 783-0884.

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Chairman White suggested that the HRC should look at a sexual harassment policy. A discussion followed regarding this topic.

The HRC recessed to go into the Goal Setting Session with Lester Schick.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Teressa Delph  
Secretary