



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Date: Wednesday, April 20, 2022

Place: King Center
1107 Adrian Street, Jackson, MI 49203

- I. Call to Order, 6:01 PM.
- II. Roll Call: Shalanda Hunt. Robert VanSumeren. Miriam Brown Dorsey. Cheryl Ragland. Maurice Imhoff.

Excused: James Johnson, Jr.

Also present: John Willis, Chief Equity Officer. Latrivia Guinn (who will join the commission in May).
- III. Adoption of the Agenda. Motion to accept by Dorsey, second Hunt. Unanimously carried.
- IV. Citizen Comments (3-Minute Limit). No comments.
- V. Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes. Motion to approve, Hunt. Second, Dorsey. Carried unanimously.
- VI. Community Liaison Police Officer Report. Det. Holly Rose. In April, in house training will occur. Topics include: officer wellness, de-escalation training, OWI (Operating While Intoxicated) field tests, taser training; also, Criminal Justice Training Consortium and emergency vehicle training. Goal to have all officers trained every three years; COVID-19 caused delays but department is catching up. Attended Violence Summit last week; follow-up meetings will occur. The three recruits in the academy are doing well; will graduate May 2022. Still posting for cadet position. Interviews for new recruits (who will start in August) this coming Friday. Police Department is beginning to organize for a Citizens' Academy. Liaison gave the HRC a hard copy of the cadet posting.

Commissioner Hunt asks several questions: What is the salary? Answer: \$22,000.00/yr. How many courses are required? Answer: Three years given to complete 60 credit hours (Associates Degree, 2.5 g.p.a.). Where is the Police Academy graduation held? Answer: Lansing Community College. Is there any DEI training for the department? Answer: Not in this spring training, but it has been held in the past.

Commissioner Imhoff comments/questions: At the Violence Summit, it was nice to see the police interacting with youth. Was it normal to have two officers at the JPS Board Meeting last night? Answer: If requested, we provide officers. Spring is here, the violence is up. Are these youth involved shootings? Answer: Yes the majority of shootings thus far are occurring by youths under twenty-five years of age. Imhoff believes that the Police Oversight Commissioners and other commissioners should attend the Citizen's Police Academy.

Latrivia Guinn comments/questions: Please explain the Citizens' Police Academy. It is a program where citizens are brought in, to conduct examples of policing practices, including 'ridealongs,' shooting, law education, etc.

Willis asks about de-escalation training. Can you present to the HRC about the de-escalation training in light of the recent GR shooting? Answer: Yes, we could provide a presentation.

VII. Committee Reports

- Nominating Committee. Ragland reported this committee is ready to approve a few candidates. Interviews will take place soon.
- Project Development Committee. Nothing to report.
- Policy and Complaint Committee. No complaint to report.
- Public Relations/Communications Committee. No update,
- Public Events. No events at this time. Willis states that the City is doing a Juneteenth event, June 18, 2022, downtown park. HRC needs to reach out to the executive committee to get a table for HRC. City needs to order/distribute name tags, shirts, and business cards.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Welcome to our New Commissioner. Welcome to Latrivia Guinn. Guinn self-introduces. Long time Jackson resident, is a psychiatric nurse practitioner, opening office at Jackson High School.
- b. Review of the HRC March Meeting at the MLK Center. Group discusses how it went. Ragland: We had good dialog. Dorsey: It was a good meeting. Hunt: Observes that the attendance is down tonight. Imhoff: Maybe we should make an email chain, notifying people of HRC meetings.
 - i. Ragland: Discussion of review of draft letter for other councilmembers, to indicate our willingness to attend ward meetings. The group workshopped language for letter to councilmembers. Motion to accept draft version letter to councilmembers re: HRC willingness to conduct regular meeting in wards, per invitation. Imhoff, motioned. Hunt, second. Unanimously approved.

- c. Youth Council Status Update. Imhoff: Interviews will be conducted soon; seven applicants currently. An excellent meeting was held.
- d. Nominating Committee Interviews Update. Discussed above. See VII.
- e. DEI Sub-Committee Update. Will present DEIB statement next month.
- f. Review Jackson Police Department Complaint. No complaint is pending.

IX. New Business

- a. Review of the Letter for City Council Members i.e. Ward Meetings. See above.
- b. Presentation of Minutes Monthly to City Council. Going forward, HRC will submit minutes to City Council monthly. This will begin in May. All meetings for new year (Jan. - present, 2022) will be submitted in May.
- c. Review and Breakdown of the 2022 Budget Request. Discussion on budget. Group workshops possible budget items.
- d. Statement about GR shooting. Motion to form subcommittee to respond to latest police shooting in Grand Rapids was made by Dorsey. Second, Hunt. Unanimously passed. Committee members will be: Hunt (Chair), Guinn, Ragland, Dorsey, VanSumeren.

X. City Councilmember Liaison Comments

XI. Commissioner's Comments

XII. Adjournment. 7:40 pm. Motion to adjourn, Dorsey. Second by Hunt. Unanimously carried.

I. Commissioner's Comments. Following the comments the meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.

Respectfully submitted from my notes,

Robert W. VanSumeren
HRC Commissioner