

## **Human Relations Commission**

**May 19, 2021**

City of Jackson  
161 W Michigan Ave  
Jackson, MI

May monthly meeting held via Zoom ID: 952 7705 6794

I. Call to Order: Chair Cheryl Ragland called the meeting to order at 6pm and Miriam Brown-Dorsey volunteered to take minutes in the absence of Secretary Shalanda Hunt.

II. Roll Call: HRC Members Present: Cheryl Ragland, James Johnson, Miriam Brown Dorsey, Robert VanSumeren, and Maurice Imhoff.

Absent: Shalanda Hunt and Karyl Baker.

Others Present: John Willis, Sargent Garcia, and Arlene Robinson.

III. Adoption of Agenda: A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Imhoff to adopt the agenda. During discussion New Business item c. was added with Willis reporting on future meetings and Old Business item a. MEI Project Update removed from agenda in absence of Baker. The motion carried.

IV. Citizen Comments: No comments.

V. Guests: None.

VI. Review of Previous Minutes of April 21, 2021: There were no minutes of April's meeting. Willis noted that previous recorded meeting minutes have been recovered.

VII. Community Liaison Police Office Report: Sargent Garcia reported that the Police Department(PD) was recognized by Special Olympics for their work with the Special Olympics. The PD won the Cereal Challenge between City Departments with 348 boxes of cereal donated by PD employees edging out the Fire Department.

The PD was the fastest in the Tunnel to Towers race. A new officer, Sammy, has graduated; two more applicants have been accepted; and 12 police recruit interviews are scheduled.

PD Bike patrols are beginning in June. Presently there is a down tick in crime. There were questions about National Night Out being held this year and any information on Storm the Capital and the risk to the PD. There's a little chatter and the FBI keeps the PD informed.

Discussion followed about guns on the street and where they come from.

VIII. Committee Reports:

A. Nominating Committee - Committee Chair Johnson reported that a follow-up meeting has not been scheduled as of yet.

B. Project Development Committee - Ragland presented the three documents for the Fair Chance Housing Ordinance (FCHO):

1. Notice to Housing Providers
2. To File a Complaint
3. City of Jackson Ordinance Prohibits Rental Discrimination Based on Criminal History the complaint form and the intro to the form

The members working on these documents were Ragland, VanSumeren, Imhoff, Baker, and Dorsey. There were five pieces of information in titles, address, and telephone number left for Willis to fill in. After two changes Ragland asked Johnson, the only HRC Member present tonight that had not worked on the documents, for his comments. Johnson was in favor of the work presented. Willis requested these forms be forwarded to him, he will take them to the City Manager, City Attorney, and then City Council after any changes are made.

The three community partners chosen was the Jackson Area Landlord Association, United Way, and Community Action Agency.

C. Policy and Complaint Committee: No report.

D. Events and Public Relations Committee:

1. Ragland asked Willis about the Juneteenth Celebration. There is a program developed for this event that is one month from today. The discussion is whether it will be virtual or in person. Jackson College does not want to cause a super spreader event by holding it in person. It's still being discussed.

2. Imhoff reported that he'd spoken to someone at Cascades Manor and they are holding events there now, no buffet only plated food. This event is not until October.

IX. Old Business:

A. No report for MEI

B. Fair Chance Housing Ordinance reported

C. No report for Mental Health and Wellness Virtual Town Hall Update with Baker and Hunt absent

D. HRC Newsletter Draft Update - Ragland reported that she is working on the newsletter. She will send out a draft for review. Dorsey reported that the HRC Asia and Asian American Antiracism Statement was in the Blazer last month.

E. Harold White Breakfast Preparation Discussion

X. New Business:

A. Final 2020 HRC Annual Report Approved - Yes, the HRC approved the Annual Report for 2020. The Council needs to approve the included budget for 2021.

B. HRC 2021 Budget Status - Willis said the budget meeting was last night. Department budgets are being reviewed and worked on. Last to be reviewed will be committee requests. The budget was presented at the May 25th Council meeting and changes can be made.

XI. City Councilmember Liaison Comment: Robinson commented that she appreciated the work completed and reviewed tonight on the Fair Chance Housing Ordinance.

XII. Commissioners Comments: Commissioners VanSumeren, Imhoff, Willis, Dorsey, Johnson, Ragland all offered comments.

XIII. Adjournment: A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Dorsey to adjourn the meeting at 7:06pm. The motion carried.