



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Mission Statement

The mission of the City of Jackson Human Relations Commission is to serve as an official agency of the City of Jackson, responsible for advising and making recommendations to the City Manager and City Council concerning good human relations, combating discrimination within the community wherever it exists, and for acting to promote needed change.

Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024

Place: City Hall, 10th Floor Conference Room
161 W. Michigan Ave., Jackson MI, 49201

- I. Call to Order. 6:00pm/
- I. Roll Call. Robert VanSumeren, Cheryl Ragland (Meeting Chair), Amy Rich, Maurice Imhoff, Bikash Jha, present. Absent: Barbara Holt, Miriam Brown Dorsey, and James Johnson, Jr. (excused). Also present: Councilperson Arline Robinson. Ms. Doria LaPorte. A quorum is present.
- II. Adoption of the Agenda. Motion to adopt as amended. Rich. Second, VanSumeren. Unanimously passed.
- III. Citizen Comments (3-Minute Limit).
- IV. Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes. Motion to approve as amended; correct Dorsey surname, correction, G.R.E.A.T. Program. Motion, Rich, as amended. Second, Jha. Unanimously passed.
- V. Community Liaison Police Officer Report. Deputy Chief Garcia. Process if finalizing budget. Wed. April 17, American 1 Event Center, Summit to Reduce Violence. Put together a recruiting team. Officers trained in crisis intervention, dealing with folks who have mental health crises. (Lifeways pays for training through a grant, including Blackman and Sheriff.) Goal is to get the entire department trained. Lifeways assists on some calls, sending out folks from Lifeways. We have a few officers in the academy.
- VI. Committee Reports
 - a. Nominating Committee (Dorsey, Holt, Imhoff-Chair, Jha). Note: Ex-Officio Seats are: Business, Education, and Health Care. Interviews with candidates have been scheduled.
 - b. Project Development Committee (Rich, Ragland)
 - a. Housing Event Update. Event will be held, March 2nd.

- b. Policy and Complaint Committee (Jha, Imhoff, VanSumern , Dorsey). No update.
- c. Public Relations/Communications Committee (Rich, Dorsey). No update.
- d. Finance Report (VanSumern, Holt). No update.

VII. Old Business

- a. Community HRC Meetings (2). August, October.
- b. Update on selection of HRC Officers.

VIII. New Business.

- a. March HRC Date Conflict with State of the City. Thursday, March 21, 2024, March 26, 2024. Date will be decided by availability.
- b. Email from Commissioner Imhoff. Motion to bring matter to policy and complaint committee; form a committee to explore an ordinance to ban traffic stops for minor offenses; to explore bringing it to City Council. Motion to allow committee to explore, VanSumeren. Second, Rich. Unanimously passed. Ragland, abstains.
- c. Open Meeting Act. Can only email about things that pertain to general meeting logistics, not policy matters.
- d. Juneteenth Update. No further planning actions needed by HRC.

IX. City Councilmember Liaison Comments.

X. Commissioner's Comments.

XI. City Staff Liaison Comments.

XII. Adjournment. Motion to adjourn 7:15am. , VanSumeren. Second, Bikash Jha. Unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted from my notes and to the best of my recollections,

Robert W. VanSumeren, Secretary

Human Relations Commission

City of Jackson, Michigan