



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, August 21, 2024

Place: City Hall, 2nd Floor Chambers
161 W. Michigan Ave., Jackson MI, 49201

- I. Call to Order by Chairperson Ragland, 6:00 pm.
- II. Roll Call. Cheryl Ragland (chair), Amy Rich, Barbara Holt, Maurice Imhoff, Miriam Brown Dorsey, Bob VanSumeren. Present for City: Doria LaPorte; Arlene Robinson. Absent: James Johnson, Jr. (excused).
- III. Adoption of the Agenda. Motion to accept, Rich. Second, Holt. Unanimously adopted.
- IV. Citizen Comments (3-Minute Limit). No citizen comments.
- V. Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes. Motion to adopt, Rich. Second, Dorsey. Unanimously approved.
- VI. Community Liaison Police Officer Report. Lt. Postma. Officers in training, Frasier entered solo patrol. Other officers are continuing training. Three candidates in the academy currently. Two open cadet positions open; 12 applicants... interviewed 8-9, four qualified to go to the next phase (background). Backpack and bike giveaway at MLK Center. This month, National Night Out at MLK Center. Recruitment Team is quite busy. Labor Day around corner. In September, we have several back-to-school job fairs. Some officers will attend the Veteran's Suicide Prevention event. Victims of Crimes Memorial, officers were present. For the next several months (on late night weekends) DUI enforcement will be heightened due to state funding received.
- VII. Committee Reports.
 - Nominating Committee (Dorsey, Holt, Imhoff, Rich). Update from Maurice. The nominating committee interviewed the candidate, Donna Brown. Imhoff makes motion to add Donna Brown as a full voting commissioner to the HRC. Second, Dorsey. Unanimously approved. LaPorte will have Ms. Brown's appointment placed on the City Council agenda. Two other applicants need to be interviewed; scheduled for September 26, 2024, 6:00pm. (Sweeney, Alexander: applicants)
 - Project Development Committee (Rich, Ragland, Imhoff).

- Policy and Complaint Committee (VanSumern, Imhoff, Dorsey). VanSumeren: Update JPD Policy Exploratory Committee -Draft Letter Review. Motion to send letter with amended language changes (from I to We), Imhoff. Second, Rich. Unanimously passed. Bob: send letter to Doria.
- Public Relations/Communications Committee (Rich, Dorsey). HRC Brochure Update. No update this month.
- Finance Report (VanSumern, Holt). Total beginning budget: \$10,000.00. Expences: Allegra Print – 607.50; Worden Printing - \$25.00; CCC Catering - \$300.00; Snacks reimbursement - \$42.47. Remaining: \$9,025.03.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Update Community HRC Meeting (August).
- b. Mediation Training – 2 commissioners only. (Remove item next month.)
- c. HWB 2024 to include nominations. Will be held at commonwealth building. Fliers have been made. Tickets available on first floor of city.
- d. Award Nominees:
 - 1 Inclusion: MLK Diversity Committee. Motion to award, Imhoff. Second, VanSumeren. Unanimously passed.
 - 2 Diversity: John Willis, Sr. Michael Young.
 - 3 Volunteerism: Diane Washington, People in the Parks.
 - 4 Motion to award these awardees, VanSumeren. Second, Dorsey. Unanimously passed.

IX. New Business

- a. NAACP event. Send \$750 to NAACP to become a Bronze Sponsor for the Freedom Fund Banquet, five have committed to go. VanSumeren motion, second, Holt. Unanimously passed. Oct. 20, 2024, 5:00 Gene Davis.
- b. Hispanic Festival (9/14/2024.). Holt and Rich will attend.

X. City Councilmember Liaison Comments.

XI. Commissioner's Comments.

XII. City Staff Liaison Comments.

XIII. Adjournment. Motion to adjourn at 8:13pm Holt. Second, Rich. Unanimously passed.

These minutes were drawn from my notes and from the best of my recollections.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert W. VanSumeren, Secretary
Human Relations Commission
City of Jackson