



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

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, January 15, 2025

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

- I. Call to Order. 6:00pm.
- II. Roll Call. Present: Maurice Imhoff; Barbara Holt; Donna Brown; Robert VanSumeren; Amy Rich; Cheryl Ragland. Also present: Doria LaPorte for the City. Councilperson Arlene Robinson present for City Council. Absent: Miriam Brown Dorsey; James Johnson, Jr.; excused.
- III. Adoption of the Agenda. Motion to adopt as amended, Rich. Second, VanSumeren. Unanimously passed.
- IV. Citizen Comments (3-Minute Limit). No citizen comments.
- V. Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes. Motion to adopt as amended (reformat Section "e" under New Business, remove "e" from Dancey [should be Dancy]), VanSumeren motions. Second, Rich. Unanimously passed.
- VI. Community Liaison Police Officer Report. Lt. John Lillie. Updates from police department. Polar Plunge upcoming, on 25th January. Handed out 400 hams donated by Garcia Labs. New part-time evidence management assistant will be hired. Police recruitment deadline is Jan. 16. There are more than 30 applicants. Chief Hitt set to retire on Feb. 21. The initial findings from the racial equity audit have been presented, pending review before final report is submitted.
- VII. Committee Reports.
 - Nominating Committee (Dorsey, Holt, Imhoff, Rich). For this year the committee will be: Johnson, Jr. (lead); Dorsey; Holt; Rich.
 - Project Development Committee (Rich, Ragland, Imhoff). For 2025 the committee will be: Ragland (lead); Imhoff; Rich.
 - Policy and Complaint Committee (VanSumern, Imhoff, Dorsey). For 2025, the committee will be: VanSumeren (lead); Imhoff; Brown; Holt.

- Imagine Planet Complaint. Discussion of complaint. VanSumeren recused himself from investigation but will meet with Policy and Complaint Committee to develop a roadmap. Motion to send complaint to Policy and Complaint Committee for recommendations, VanSumeren. Second, Holt. Unanimously passed.

- Public Relations/Communications Committee (Rich). VanSumeren made motion to disband this Public Relations Committee. Second, Imhoff. Unanimously passed.
- Finance Report (VanSumern, Holt). For 2025, Holt (lead); VanSumeren, Hunt. No update.

Motion to approve the slate of 2025 candidates, VanSumeren. Second, Holt. Unanimously passed.

VIII. Old Business

- a. HRC Brochure. Brocures have been paid for, will be delivered to Ms. LaPorte this week.
- b. Legal Aid Event. VanSumeren motions to move to March 29. Second, Imhoff. Expand to conference. Legal services, estate planning. Unanimously passed.

IX. New Business

- a. 2025 HRC Events (Commissioner Commitment)
 - 1 .Hispanic Heritage (September): TBD
 - 2 Pride Festival (June): TBD
 - 3 Juneteenth (June): TBD
- b. MLK Events. There will be several events: MLK Dinner at JC, Jan. 18. Sunday: Friday, 17th, MLK Breakfast for Chamber of Commerce.
- c. HRC Ordinance. Reviewed ordinance at meeting.
- d. Add election of officers next month (February, 2025).

X. City Councilmember Liaison Comments. Councilperson Robinson offers comments.

XI. Business Cards: Motion to get business cards, Brown. Second, Rich. Unanimously passed.

XII. Commissioner's Comments

XIII. City Staff Liaison Comments

XIV. Adjournment. Motion to adjourn, 7:42pm, Imhoff. Second, Second. Unanimously passed.

These minutes are compiled from my notes and from the best of my recollection.

Humbly submitted,

Robert W. VanSumeren, Secretary

Human Relations Commission