

Topeka Human Relations Commission

Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2015

Commissioners met on March 2, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. for the March monthly meeting
Holliday Building – Conference Room
620 SE Madison Street
Topeka, KS 66603

To request an ADA accommodation, please contact 368-3606 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. no later than 3 working days in advance of this meeting.

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Human Relations Commission is to conduct outreach and educational activities that promote justice and cultural understanding, and improve relationships among all citizens of the City of Topeka.

Commissioners present:

Ms. Lorean Williams
Ms. Margo Rangel
Ms. Amy Cohen
Ms. Stephanie Mott
Mr. Mike Padilla
Mr. Anthony Fadale
Mr. Bill Beachy
Ms. Joyce Grigsby

Commissioners absent:

Ms. Darcella Goodman

I. Call to order – Commissioner

Noting a quorum, Stephanie Mott, Chair, called the meeting at order at 5:30 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance followed by a Moment of Silence

III. Approval of Agenda

Bill made a motion to adopt the agenda and Margo seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Correction – Mike would like the last sentence of paragraph three located on page 4 that reads “*From law enforcement it is a positive idea.*” To be removed.

Minutes from January meeting were presented. Stephanie motioned to adopt the minutes as amended; Margo seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.

v. **Staff Report**

Monique Glaude or Shane Wilson with the Department of Neighborhood Relations will be available for assistance for future HRC meetings.

VI. **Committee Reports**

• *Prejudice & Poverty Committee Update*

The available training session dates are April 12th; April 25th or April 26th. Council members are encouraged to attend and the invitation to high school students is strongly recommended. The two sessions will be four hours. The dates listed above are only for the first session. Stephanie will confirm the finalized date with the facilitator.

Monique will schedule the Holliday conference room for April 25th 8:00 – noon as a tentative back-up training session location.

• *Troy Scroggins Award Committee Update*

It was recommended that public service announcements about the award be created by City 4 and shown on all mainstream media outlets. Monique will contact City 4 and invite them to a future meeting to discuss the board's needs.

Nominations need to be advertised on CITY website and all other means of social media.

Amy made a motion to close application submission date of April 30th; Bill seconded.

• *Town Hall Committee Meeting Update*

"Get Out & Vote" The tentative date that works with Mark Stock is June 18th. The emphasis for constituents is "What's at stake or risk when you choose to vote or not vote." Constituents need to be involved in how they receive their services- your vote does count.

Items for further discussion are as follows: refreshments, printed materials, Room rental.

VII. **Old Business**

Marketing Initiatives – Monique will contact City 4 about attending a future meeting.

Ban the Box – The board would like to invite Human Resources Director Jacqueline Russell to discuss the issue. Stephanie is meeting with Chief Ron Brown and Patrick Woods to discuss

discuss the concern. Wyandotte County has implemented the initiative.

HCCI – Elias is no longer with HCCI. He was going to help with the collaboration of April Fair Housing Month initiatives.

VIII. New Business

Community Letter - The original letter was mailed and a follow-up will be mailed. The purpose is to promote social justice and will provide an opportunity to have a collaborative discussion. As of today seven groups have responded.

IX. Public Comments

None.

X. Commissioner remarks

Anthony – ADA training is upcoming. He will provide the link. Anthony apologizes for his tardiness. He worked with Elias last year and assisted with the accessibility portion. He's willing to assist.

15-2 the Governor's executive order encourages hiring; promoting and mentoring of Veterans and persons with disabilities. reaffirmation and promotion throughout the state and form partnerships.

He encourages everyone to have a colonostomy.

Joyce – On Monday, March 3rd Darcella husband's funeral service will be at 11:00. Joyce plans on attending and will deliver the card.

Mike – Thanks to Margo for taking the time to coordinate the meeting with Joan. It was a great meeting. Mike encourages more movement, ideas and focus for the commission.

Lorean – She is looking forward to all the things planned.

Margo – There are no fair housing events scheduled in Shawnee county.

Bill – Thanks for the great discussion last month. The annual report was great. He plans on attending the funeral tomorrow.

Amy – No remarks.

Stephanie – sends message to young people the wrong message - if life is worth living or lesser of a human being. This is contrary to this body's belief and the justice and equality.

March 12th is her last day at Shawnee County. She will work on speaking engagements, HRC and other areas. She is excited about HRC. The body is very alive and it's ti

me to be redefined. "What can we still do to eliminate prejudice issues that make it u
nable for people to reach their full potential. "

XI. Adjournment

Motion by Margo Rangle to adjourn the meeting. Mike seconded. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be April 6, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Monique Glaude.