

Topeka Human Relations Commission

Meeting Minutes
December 7, 2015

Commissioners met on December 7, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. for the October 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. Amy Cohen
Ms. Joyce Grigsby
Ms. Stephanie Mott
Ms. Darcella Goodman
Ms. Crystal Irwin

Commissioners absent:

Mr. Bill Beachy

I. Call to order – Commissioner

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

A. Pledge of Allegiance followed by a Moment of Silence

B. Approval of Agenda

Lorean made a motion to adopt the agenda and Crystal seconded. No Discussion.
Motion carried

C. Approval of Minutes

Amy motioned to adopt the minutes as amended. Darcella seconded. Motion carried.

II. Staff Report

• Troy Scroggins Award

Shane presented a copy of what the award would look like that would be given to the Green Gals and a copy of the City Council meeting agenda to show what time the award would be given out.

III. Committee Reports

- ***Prejudice & Poverty Committee Update***

- **Social Justice Education Training**

- Stephanie will contact Marsha and Precious about setting up a date for the next training.

- **Multi Agency Meeting**

- Amy sent an email blast asking to see if anyone was interested in continuing the Multi Agency Training and has got no response. Amy would like to have a meeting on the different learning gaps and activism that the community needs.

Crystal motioned to add current events to the agenda to discuss issues that are currently happening in Topeka or surrounding areas that the HRC could begin to make statements on.

The HRC is wondering who do they refer people to and when they do refer people how will they know that those people are receiving the help that they need. What power does the HRC have or what more can they do to help.

- ***Troy Scroggins Award Committee Update***

- The HRC received one nomination for the award, The Green Gals. They will receive the award at the December 15th city council meeting. Amy will call them and let them know that they have been chosen as the recipient of the award.

- ***Town Hall Committee Meeting Update***

Lorean wanted to clarify the date for the next Town Hall meeting. The date is confirmed as March 10th from 6:00-7:30pm. The HRC would like the border to be the same color as the last flyer but maybe a little less “busy”.

IV. Old Business

- ***PSA's and Other Promotional Activities***

- No new information, need to take pictures off website of old commissioners.

- ***City of Topeka Non-Discrimination Ordinance***

- This discussion will be tabled until the next HRC meeting.

- **Budget**

The budget for the HRC will be \$2,500. The HRC will continue to discuss the best ways to allocate the money. The idea was brought up of holding Town Hall Meeting at the library to save money on security.

V. **New Business**

- **Thank You, Amy**

The HRC thanked Amy for all the hard work she has put in and the amazing energy and willingness to help.

- **Annual Report**

This discussion will be tabled until the next HRC meeting.

- **As Arises**

VI. **Public Comments**

None

VII. **Commissioner remarks**

Joyce- Wished Amy good luck and success on her next adventure and she will miss her very much

Crystal- She was in a time crunch and will wait until the next meeting to comment.

Lorean – Thanked Amy for all of her hard work.

Amy – Thanked everyone and let them know it was an honor and privilege to work with such a great group of people.

Stephanie – Thanked everyone for being here and all the work that they have put in.

Darcella - Thanked Amy and told her to not be a stranger, thanked the HRC for a good meeting and said that the HRC not having a voice doesn't make any sense.

VIII. **Adjournment**

Motion made by Lorean to adjourn the meeting. Darcella seconded. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be January 4, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Shane Wilson.