



MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING **APPROVED**

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HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

**DATE:** Tuesday, June 11, 2024  
**TIME:** 6:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Urbana City Council Chambers  
Urbana City Building  
400 South Vine Street  
Urbana, Illinois 61801

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**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Ann Panthen, Chair; Shalini Smith, Vice Chair; Peter Resnick; Vahagn Chiflikyan

**COMMISSIONER AWAY:** Greg Schroeder

**ALSO PRESENT:** Carla Boyd, Human Rights and Equity Officer; Tom Unzicker, Human Rights Specialist

**A. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM**

Ann Panthen called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. The Recording Secretary took the roll. A quorum was present.

**B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioners accepted the agenda without change.

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**1. May 21, 2024**

Ms. Panthen called for a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Peter Resnick so moved. Shalini Smith seconded the motion. The commissioners approved the motion by a voice vote.

**D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was none.

**E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was none.

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Acceptance of Automatic EEO Certifications**

There were none.

## **2. Consideration of EEO Workforce Statistics**

Ms. Panthen inquired as to whether the submission by PJ Hoerr was an update. Another company, Hoerr was recently certified. They are separate companies in communities near each other.

Mr. Resnick move to approve certification of seven companies as follows:

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.	2 years
Schaefer Plastics North America, LLC	2 years
Locality Media Inc. (d/b/a First Due)	2 years
Commerce Bank	2 years
ABC Sanitary Hauling & Recycling	2 years
PJ Hoerr, Inc.	1 year
Broeren Russo Builders, Inc.	1 year

Vahagn Chiflikyan seconded the motion.

Mr. Resnick explained recommending PJ Hoerr and Broeren Russo Builders for one year certification as the two are union shops. He hopes to see a proposal to come before the commission at a future meeting regarding companies utilizing union labor. One-year certifications now would give the commission flexibility pending that proposal.

Ms. Smith pointed out Commerce Bank's employee information was from the end of 2022. In the discussion it was suggested that a large corporation might have shared their most recent annual report, but a definite explanation was unknown. An update to the application form could add room to explain such an appearance of information not appearing to be recent.

Mr. Chiflikyan asked about applicants appearing to leave some answers blank. It was explained some questions allow for skipping. One applicant had left a question unanswered, but when answered, they were found to be in good standing.

Schaefer Plastics had left the question about "sub-contractors" blank. In response to a question from Mr. Resnick, Mr. Chiflikyan stated he was comfortable moving forward with certification even as staff reviews the question.

Following discussion, the motion carried on a voice vote.

## **G. OFFICER'S REPORT**

Ms. Boyd shared her monthly report. Highlights included:

- Status of complaints and referrals made
- Attended a meeting of the Southeast Urbana Neighborhood Association along with Ann.
- Received a new application for the commission
- Mr. Resnick received reappointed for a three-year term
- Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>: Juneteenth "Reflections and Reverence," Council Chambers; doors open at 11 a.m.
- Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>: City Employees, Families, and Guests Lunch, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## **H. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. A public event, "Juneteenth Reflections and Reverence," is Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. in this chamber. Doors open at 11 a.m. for an exhibit and tabling activities.

2. A public event, "Juneteenth Celebration in Urbana," is Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 3 p.m. at Crystal Lake Park in partnership with the Urbana Free Library. There will be music, food, and a variety of recreational activities
3. Commissioners, the "Juneteenth Celebration Lunch for Employees, Families, and Guests," is Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. Serving will take place from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.
4. The "26<sup>th</sup> Annual Martin Luther King Jettie Rhodes Day" in Urbana is Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> from 12 – 4 p.m., at Urbana King Park. Everyone is encouraged to attend.
5. This Commission has openings
6. Next scheduled meeting: Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

#### **I. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Commission, Ms. Panthen adjourned the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas D. Unzicker  
Recording Secretary