



MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

APPROVED

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

DATE: Tuesday, February 13, 2024

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: Urbana City Council Chambers
Urbana City Building
400 South Vine Street
Urbana, Illinois 61801

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Ann Panthen, Chair; Shalini Smith, Vice Chair; Peter Resnick; 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 6:01 p.m. The Recording Secretary took the roll. A quorum was present.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. January 23, 2024

Ms. Panthen called for a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Peter Resnick so moved. Greg Schroeder 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. EEO Workforce Statistics

Mr. Schroeder moved to approve certification of nine companies as follows:

Daniel L. Ribbe Trucking, Inc.	1 year
JP Excavating & Trucking Inc	2 years
A. Epstein and Sons International, Inc.	1 year

Cordogan Clark	2 years
Valdes Engineering Company	2 years
Remco Electrical Corp	1 year
A&R Mechanical Services, Inc.	1 year
Lochmueller Group, Inc	1 year
MGT of America Consulting LLC	2 years

Peter Resnick seconded the motion.

During discussion, Mr. Resnick sought to clarify the cut-off for automatic certification. It is 14 employees and below.

Due to a reduction in the percentage of minority workers since their previous certification, Mr. Schroeder sought to clarify the status of Lochmueller Group regarding union workers. Documents presented to the Commission from the OHRE had some contradictory information. The company is not a union shop.

Mr. Resnick suggested asking the company for more information regarding their turnover in the past two years. Mr. Schroeder accepted a friendly amendment to his motion to defer action on Lochmueller Group until the next meeting.

Mr. Schroeder sought to determine possible reasons MGT of America would show a high number of employees not reporting ethnicity. Carla Boyd explained that is generally by employee choice. The company had made note of the numbers in the application's comment section.

Following the discussion, the motion with the friendly amendment carried on a voice vote.

Certified for Two Years: A. Epstein and Sons International; Cordogan Clark; JP Excavating & Trucking Inc; MGT of America Consulting; Valdes Engineering.

Certified for One Year: A&R Mechanical Services; Daniel L. Ribbe Trucking; Remco Electrical.

G. OFFICER'S REPORT

Ms. Boyd shared her monthly report. Highlights included:

- Status of complaints
- Calls and referrals
- Mailed flyers to 80 property owners/managers in Illinois beyond Champaign County; preparing mailing for those with property here, but who live outside of Illinois
- Delivering similar posters and brochures in the nearby areas
- Electronic versions of the new materials are available for posting on a property's website
- One of Urbana's Neighborhood Associations has scheduled her to attend a meeting

Follow Up: Mr. Resnick wondered whether non-citizen residents might be eligible to serve on this commission. Ms. Boyd will check on that before the next meeting.

Ms. Panthen stated she will plan to attend community events when her schedule allows. Shalini Smith will also plan to attend. Ms. Boyd will update the two of them on upcoming dates

H. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. This Commission has five openings for new members. Please apply through the Office of Human Rights and Equity.
2. A survey of commissioners about schedule options has led to rescheduling the next meeting to Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at 5:15 p.m.
3. Commissioners previously scheduled April's meeting for Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

I. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, Ms. Panthen adjourned the meeting at 6:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas D. Unzicker
Recording Secretary