



MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING APPROVED

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

DATE: Tuesday, September 17, 2024

TIME: 5:30 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; Jerry Frye

COMMISSIONER ABSENT: Vahagn Chiflikyan

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 5:31 p.m. The Recording Secretary took the roll. A quorum was present.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Panthen announced that one update to the agenda corrected the date of the next scheduled meeting. Commissioners accepted the agenda without additional change.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. August 20, 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

1. Members of the Carver Park neighborhood of Champaign and supporters from surrounding subdivisions, which include neighborhoods in portions of Urbana attended. One member voiced a concern that they were unable to access a recording of the August meeting from the City's website. Another requested paper copies of the agenda be available at all meetings.
2. Responses from Commissioners
Ms. Smith stated she could help the neighborhood member find the meeting video on YouTube. Mr. Resnick asked staff to follow up on the question about access to the video directly from the City's website. Ms. Panthen welcomed the suggestion to provide extra agenda copies for possible audience members at future meetings.

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. 12-22(g) Complaint - Update

Ms. Panthen reported that she is serving as the investigator of the complaint about the circumstances surrounding the Hope Village Development. She described her process to sort out the issues. In addition to numerous people with whom she is and will be talking, there are minutes and videos to review. She hopes to complete her report by the next meeting.

Jerry Frye related that he had taken a drive to educate himself on the location of the area in question.

In a response to a question from Mr. Resnick about next steps after the investigator completes the report. Carla Boyd stated that the investigator writes a report to the Mayor and Ms. Boyd. Then the investigator presents the report to the HRC for review and discussion about the investigator's recommendations. Following that discussion by the commissioners, she presents the report's findings to the City Council.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Receipt of Automatic EEO Certifications

Ms. Panthen announced that two companies qualified for automatic two-year EEO Certification this month:

- IOF Inc. d/b/a Idaho Ordnance Factory
- United Fuel Company

2. Consideration of EEO Workforce Statistics

Ms. Panthen asked for a motion to approve certification of companies seeking certification. Ms. Smith moved to approve certification of the applicants as follows:

Rosecrance Behavioral Health	2 years
Midwest Commercial Coatings, Inc.	1 year
Illini Glass Solutions, Inc d/b/a Arrow Glass and Mirror	1 year
Visu-Sewer, Inc. (Wisconsin)	2 years
The Envision Group Inc. d/b/a EnvisionCAD	1 year
Midwest Fiber Recycling of Urbana	2 years
GFL Environmental Inc.	2 years
Altorfer Inc.	2 years

Mr. Resnick seconded the motion. He stated he supported each staff recommendations this month.

Ms. Panthen inquired about one company's application paperwork. Midwest Commercial Coatings had used an older version of the application.

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
- She recently conducted another outreach event at Market at the Square on Saturday, September 7th and Ann joined her.
- She presented at the meeting of the Age-Friendly Steering Committee of Champaign-Urbana, about the Office of Human Rights and Equity, as well as protected classes
- One new applicant for the commission has interviewed; expect an appointment decision soon

- She plans to attend a Black Mental Health & Wellness Conference at Parkland College on October 26th
- “Government 101”, about available community services for new immigrants takes place tomorrow at Champaign Public Library with a goal of establishing new and trusting relationships

H. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. This Commission has openings and Ms. Panthen encourages her fellow commissioners to participate in outreach events when possible.
2. Next scheduled meeting: Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

I. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, Ms. Panthen adjourned the meeting at 5:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas D. Unzicker

Recording Secretary