



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Quality Services for a Quality Community

MEMBERS

Patrick Cannon
Chuck Grigsby
Karen Hoene, Vice Chair
Carla McWherter
Liz Miller
Talyce Murray, Chair
Sean Perry
Thasin Sardar
Quentin Tyler

City Council Liaison
Aaron Stephens

Staff Liaison
Shelli Neumann
(517) 319-6893

City of East Lansing
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
RESOURCES
410 Abbot Road
East Lansing, MI 48823
(517) 337-1731
www.cityofeastlansing.com

AGENDA

February 12, 2020, 7:00 PM

Court/City Council Conference Room
East Lansing, MI 48823

- 1) Opening
 - A) Roll Call
 - B) Review of Agenda for February 12, 2020
 - C) Approval of Minutes for January 15, 2020
- 2) Public Comment
- 3) Written Correspondence
- 4) East Lansing Police Department Complaint Summary 2019---Chief Larry Sparkes & Deputy Chief Steve Gonzalez
- 5) Council Liaison Comments
- 6) Staff Liaison Comments
- 7) Commissioner Concerns
- 8) New Business
 - a. Wharton Center Gift Shop Incident
- 9) Old Business
 - a. Subcommittee Reports
 - b. *Coffee & Conversation*
- 10) Adjournment

CALENDAR:

January, Stalking Awareness Month
January 20, Martin Luther King Jr. Day
March 7, East Lansing's Ban on Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation
April, Crime Victims' Week
April, Sexual Assault Awareness Month
July 26, Anniversary of the Passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month & Breast Cancer Awareness Month

PLEASE NOTE: Meeting starts at 7:00 PM and will be held in the Court/City Council Conference Room. If you will not be at the meeting, please call Shelli Neumann (319-6893).

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MINUTES

January 15, 2020 –7:00 P.M.

Court/City Council Conference Room

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1) Opening

A) Roll Call

Present at the meeting were Commissioners Hoene, McWherter, Miller, Murray, Sardar and Tyler. Absent at the meeting were Commissioners Cannon, Grigsby and Perry. Also present were Council Liaison Aaron Stephens and Shelli Neumann, Staff Liaison.

B) Review of Agenda

The Commission approved the agenda for January 15, 2020. Motion by Hoene; second by Miller. All yeas; motion carried.

C) Approval of Minutes

The Commission approved the minutes for December 4, 2019. Motion by Miller; second by McWherter. All yeas; motion carried.

D) Introduction of Commissioners

Commissioners introduced themselves to newly appointed Commissioner Quentin Tyler.

E) Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Motion by Sardar; second by Miller to appoint Talyce Murray as Chair of the HRC for 2020. All yeas; motion carried.

Motion by Sardar; second by Miller to appoint Karen Hoene Vice Chair of the HRC for 2020. All yeas; motion carried.

2) Public Comment

None

3) Written Correspondence

None

4) Council Liaison Comments

Mayor Pro Tem Stephens reported the following items to the commission:

- He is working on making & recommending some edits/updates to the Human Relations Ordinance.
- He described the Evergreen Properties RFP that was recently discussed at a City Council meeting
- The MLK Commission is hosting several great events this week.
- The HRC's recommended resolution regarding an Ad Hoc Task Force for the Public Safety Review Board went before City Council at their December 10 discussion only meeting. This topic will likely be discussed at a future discussion-only meeting after staff review. Commissioner Miller, who attended the City Council meeting on behalf of the HRC, encouraged anyone who would

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like to communicate their perspective on the recommended resolution to City Council members should reach out individually to express their thoughts.

5) Staff Liaison Report

Neumann distributed the MLK Luncheon tickets to the commissioners who were attending the upcoming event.

Neumann verified that the Slavery to Freedom special event for each of the three speakers has been filled by an HRC commissioner.

6) Commissioner Concerns/Items

Commissioner Murray noted that she is working on compiling a list of City groups that represent protected classes, and we will invite some of these identified resources to future HRC meetings.

Commissioner McWherter inquired about ELPD quarterly reports with demographics on traffic stops.

7) New Business

A) 2019 Year in Review

Commissioners reviewed the 2019 Year in Review document. It was noted that two additions should be made: Goal Setting (Facilitated by Staff Person Wendy Longpre) and Face to Face—A Conversation About Moving Beyond Despair and Collective Trauma.

B) ELPD Annual Complaint Review Process

The Police Chief is unable to attend the scheduled February 5 HRC meeting, as he has another commitment. Motion by Miller; second by Hoene to move the February 5 HRC meeting to February 12. All yeas; motion carried.

C) Plea Bargaining

Mayor Pro Tem Stephens noted that the last time the City reviewed at the Plea Bargain Policy was 2008. Currently Council is looking specifically at DWLS (Driving While License Suspended). The 54B District Court and City Attorney will be doing some cost analysis to determine the impact of a change in this policy. The issue will be back on a City Council agenda in February. Commissioners are encouraged to review the current Plea Bargain Policy (attachment) and identify other areas that they believe should be updated/changed.

D) MSU ADA Compliance

Commissioner Murray noted that many buildings on MSU campus are not handicap accessible. Commissioners discussed examples of this campus. It was decided that Commissioner Hoene and/or Commissioner Murray would reach out to Michael Hudson, MSU's Director of the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities for more information on this topic.

E) HRC Ordinance

Due to time constraints, this topic will be added to the March 2020 meeting agenda. Some items to consider addressing in the HRC ordinance: expanded/updated role of the commission, name change to Human Rights Commission, the inclusion of public safety annual summary report, and definitions of protected classes. Commissioners are asked to look at the ordinance to suggest possible updates/changes.

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8. Old Business

A) HRC Subcommittee Updates

The Youth Summit subcommittee met to discuss a future event hosted by the HRC. Commissioner Hoene gave a summary of notes from her meeting with Commissioner Grigsby.

The Ad Hoc Committee on Public Safety Review subcommittee will not meet until more information is provided by City Council.

B) *Coffee & Conversation*—HRC Monthly Event

- February, Census Edition---Commissioner Sardar in coordination with Amy Schlusler-Schmitt, details TBD
- March 18, Gender Edition, 5:00 – 7:00 PM, Foster Coffee, Commissioner Miller
- April 19, Student Edition, 1:30 – 3:30 PM, Foster Coffee, , Commissioner Murray

9) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 PM. Motion by Hoene; second by McWherter. All yeas; motion carried.

sln

HRC ATTENDANCE: 2020

Name	Term Expires	Jan 15	Feb 5	March 4	Apr 1	May 6	Jun 3
Cannon, Pat	2020	Ab					
McWherter, Carla	2022	X					
Miller, Liz	2022	X					
Murray, Talyce	2022	X					
Hoene, Karen	2021	X					
Perry, Sean	2021	Ab					
Grigsby, Chuck	2020	Ab					
Sardar, Thasin	2020	X					
Tyler, Quentin	2022	X					

P= Present

Ab=Absent

NA=Not Applicable

First Meeting

