



# HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Quality Services for a Quality Community

## MINUTES

### MEMBERS

Daniel Baum, Chair  
Patrick Cannon  
Karen Hoene  
Carla McWherter  
Liz Miller  
Talyce Murray  
City Council Liaison  
Aaron Stephens

### Staff Liaison

Shelli Neumann  
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### City of East Lansing

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**March 6, 2019–7:00 P.M.**

Court/City Council Conference Room

East Lansing, MI 48823

1) **Opening**

A) **Roll Call**

Present at the meeting were Commissioners Baum, Cannon, Hoene, McWherter and Miller. Also present was Shelli Neumann, Staff Liaison.

B) **Election of Vice Chair**

Vice Chair Dana Watson has resigned from the HRC, effective immediately, due to her appointment to the City of East Lansing Planning Commission. A new Vice Chair is needed for the HRC.

Motion by Cannon; second by Hoene to nominate and appoint Commissioner McWherter to Vice Chair for the remainder of 2019. All yeas; motion carried.

C) **Review of Agenda**

The Commission approved the agenda for March 6, 2019. Motion by McWherter; second by Miller. All yeas; motion carried.

D) **Approval of Minutes**

The Commission approved the minutes for January 16, 2019. Motion by Cannon; second by McWherter. All yeas; motion carried.

E) **Introduction of Commissioner Hoene**

Newly appointed Human Relations Commissioner introduced herself and gave some personal and professional background to the HRC.

2) **Public Comment**

None

3) **Council Liaison Report**

Council member Stephens was not in attendance. No report.

4) **Staff Liaison Report**

MSU's School of Criminal Justice is hosting *Policing the Police*, an event where a documentary will be shown, followed by a panel of discussion regarding police/community relations and use of force issues. The event will be held on March 20, 6:15 – 8:15 PM, at 103 Erickson Hall, MSU.

Neumann recently met with MSU Drs. Dorinda Carter-Andrews and Lynn Paine. They are hosting a community conversation on the topic of community healing from traumatic national/world events on March 27 and would like the HRC to participate as a supporter.

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## Quality Services for a Quality Community

### 5) **Commissioner Concerns/Items**

Commissioner Cannon gave a brief summary of the structure of the Age Friendly Steering Committee in which he is participating.

### 6) **Old Business**

#### 1. Recruitment

Commissioners brainstormed ways to encourage residents to apply to the HRC. Ideas included reaching out to former panelists at Face to Face events, ASMSU, and ELELP. Several commissioners noted that they would reach out to specific community members they know that may have interest in the commission.

#### 2. ELPD Complaint Process

Commissioners reviewed the memo from Staff Liaison Neumann, *ELPD Complaint Review Process*, which summarized a meeting that was held on this meeting in February.

Memo Item #3—alternate language was suggested to read, “If you feel you have been discriminated against because of your membership in a protected class, you may also make a complaint to the Human Relations Commission.”

Commissioners discussed the composition, process, legalities and logistics regarding an alternate police complaint review process.

The Commission asked that the Police Chief be invited to the April 2019 HRC meeting to discuss the topic further. Additionally, the commission will work on writing a memo to the Police Chief that will provide him with some questions and direction regarding the HRC’s thoughts.

### 7) **New Business**

#### 1. Future Events/Topics

Commissioner Hoene suggested establishing a framework to provide more frequent (perhaps monthly) forums to explore civil rights issues and topics in the East Lansing community. The format of a monthly coffee chat on a specific topic hosted by a Human Relations Commissioner was discussed. This idea will be explored further in the next month.

#### 2. April meeting

Due to commissioner availability on April 3, the regular April HRC meeting will be moved to April 10.

### 8) **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM. Motion by Miller; second by Hoene. All yeas; motion carried.