



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Quality Services for a Quality Community

MINUTES

June 5, 2019–7:00 P.M.

Court/City Council Conference Room

East Lansing, MI 48823

MEMBERS

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

Staff Liaison

Shelli Neumann
(517) 319-6893

City of East Lansing

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

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1) Opening

A) Roll Call

Present at the meeting were Commissioners Baum, Cannon, Hoene, McWherter, Miller and Murray (Skype). Also present were Aaron Stephens, City Council Liaison, and Shelli Neumann, Staff Liaison.

B) Review of Agenda

The Commission approved the agenda for June 5, 2019. Motion by Hoene; second by Cannon. All yeas; motion carried.

C) Approval of Minutes

The Commission approved the minutes for May 1, 2019. Motion by McWherter; second by Hoene. All yeas; motion carried.

2) Public Comment

The following members of the public spoke on the topic of the Public Safety Review Ordinance:

Kath Edsall
Ralph Monsma
Jeffrey Wray
Chris Root
LaShawn Erby

3) Written Correspondence

- a) From East Lansing resident Erick Williams, dated June 2, 2019, *Comments on East Lansing Draft Ordinance Creating a Public Safety Review Board* (provided to HRC as part of agenda packet)
- b) From East Lansing resident Erick Williams, *Seven Ordinances Creating Civilian Police Oversight Agencies* (provided to HRC at the meeting)

4) Council Liaison Report

Council member Stephens thanked all the members of the public for their input on the Public Safety Review Ordinance. He noted that the ordinance will appear on the July 16 City Council agenda, and he will be asking to defer its approval. He recommends that the HRC make a recommendation to City Council that will allow more time for research, analysis and public input on the topic of public safety review.

Council member Stephens noted that June is Pride Month. Huntington Woods recently banned conversion therapy, and Stephens noted that he intends to research and work on drafting a similar ordinance for East Lansing.

Stephens recently met with EVE and discussed lease options.

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Stephens introduced Sean Perry Jr., who will be appointed to the HRC at the next City Council meeting.

5) **Staff Liaison Report**

The 13th Annual Mayors' Ramadan Unity Dinner is June 12, 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM at Lansing Center. Tickets for the event are available to the HRC.

Neumann distributed copies of the HRC Complaint Form.

6) **Commissioner Concerns/Items**

Commissioner Miller updated the Commission on the status of Neighborhood Restrictive Covenants. Currently, there are two bills in the House that will enable the removal of restrictive covenants.

7) **Old Business**

A) **Public Safety Review Board**

Commissioners expressed their appreciation to the public who came out to express their thoughts on the ordinance.

It was moved by Miller to create a Public Safety Review Board (sub)committee to spend time researching and gathering public input on this topic to make recommendations to City Council; second by Cannon. Ayes: Baum, Cannon, Miller, Hoene. Nays: McWherter. Motion carried.

B) ***Coffee & Conversation*—HRC Monthly Event**

Neumann will work with the City's Communications Department to draft a press release and a flier for this event, as well as discuss a marketing strategy.

C) **Draft Summary of HRC Review of Police Complaints Annual Review**

This process development was tabled due to the possible impact of the Public Safety Review on the future of this HRC activity.

8) **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 PM. Motion by Cannon; second by Hoene. All yeas; motion carried.