

LOUISVILLE METRO HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
ADVOCACY MEETING MINUTES

January 7, 2019

The Advocacy Board meeting of the Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission was held Monday, January 7, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. at the Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Reginald Glass called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: 6 – Commissioners Victor Eddie, Reginald Glass, Angelica Matos (*phone*), Gwendolyn Pearce (*phone*), Heather Williams (*phone*), and Dawn Wilson.

ABSENT: 3 – Commissioners David Allgood, Gad Niyiragira, and Dr. Arthur Patterson (*all excused*).

MINUTES

Commissioner Dawn Wilson moved to accept the November 2018 minutes as presented, Commissioner Heather Williams. seconded. Motion passed with no opposed or abstain.

BOARD 2019 CALENDAR

Chair Glass asked the Board to review the calendar for the 2019 year and note any modification(s). Due the activities around Derby weekend, the Board agreed to move the May 6th meeting date to May 13th.

Commissioner Wilson moved to accept the calendar modification, Commissioner Williams. seconded. Motion passed with no opposed or abstain.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT (*by Martha Lawfer*)

- Suzy Post Passing – Martha Lawfer asked the Board if they would like to do anything for Suzy's passing. Martha communicated that she will have Diniah forward an Email to the Board providing additional information on the arrangements.

The Board discussed renaming the Human Relations Commission Lifetime Achievement Award after Suzy Post. Commissioner Wilson moved to rename the Award to the Suzy Post Lifetime Achievement Award, Commissioner Williams. seconded. Motion passed with no opposed or abstain

- Future Guest Speaker(s) – Martha communicated that Kendall asks if the Board have any suggestion(s) for future guest speaker(s) to Email him their suggestions.
- Lean into Louisville Initiative – The Mayor will soon be announcing the Lean into Louisville Initiative Series.

Chair Reginald Glass communicated that he attended the Planning Committee that Kellie Watson is putting together concerning Lean into Louisville.

- HUD and EEOC – Both HUD and EEOC are closed due to the government shutdown.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

Chair Glass asked if the Board has a Conflict of Interest Policy. Martha Lawfer noted that the Commission has a standard policy regarding the work that it does but is not sure if there is a policy pertaining to the Boards.

Chair Glass noted that there was a situation at a December meeting where one of our members frequently identified himself with a union. Chair Glass also noted that we may want to issue a statement to the Board members to be mindful that in meeting(s) with outside agencies, we represent the Commission and no one else, even if it is a retired position.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

DISABILITY COMMITTEE

No report.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE – Commissioner Dawn Wilson reported:

- December 3rd Meeting with JCPS – The meeting was with Chief Equity Dr. John Marshall, Coordinator Delquan Dorsey, and Renee Murphy. Topics covered were the issues of racial equity, and the policy. It was a very positive meeting.
- JCPS Board Meeting – Dr. John Marshall asked the Advocacy Board for support at tomorrow's Board meeting. Commissioner Wilson asked Diniah to contact JCPS for the meeting time and place and Email her and Chair Glass.
- Education Committee Quarterly Meeting with JCPS
 - **Mental Health Councilors** – JCPS plans to have mental health councilors at all 50 JCPS schools. There are 34 mental health councilors overall. Given those issues, what did they plan to do to get these counselors? The answer was, we really have no plan.
 - **LGBT Mero Employees Partnering with JCPS** – They are looking at partnering with JCPS on what type of educational initiatives they can do to encourage students to do some type of work or work in the government.
 - **Strategy for Inspiring Students** – They talked about what are the strategies for inspiring students that have no interest in learning.
 - **Racial Equity Policy** – Update.
 - **Proposed Changes** – Looked at proposed changes to overhaul district administrative staff.
 - **WEB DuBois and Newcomer Academy** – Talked about what steps are being done.
 - **Renovations: Manual and Shawnee** – Are being done.
 - **Suspension** – Talked about elementary and schools of color. The teacher does not want to deal with them. They do not have the capacity or the training to address the issues at that time.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE (*continuation*)

- Chief Conrad's LGBTQ Advisory Committee Meeting – Commissioner Wilson also reported that she attended the Advisory Committee Meeting on December 4th. The meeting was an update on the survey done by the Committee. There were 350 diversified responses throughout the city received. They are going to start publishing the responses. The Committee's future meeting dates are:
 - February 5, 2019
 - April 2, 2019
 - June 4, 2019
 - August 6, 2019
 - October 1, 2019
 - December 3, 2019

The meetings are usually held at 12:00p.m., at the Play Dance Bar, 1101 E. Washington Street.

- The Equality Federation – Chris Hartman and the Fairness Campaign will host the Federation's National Leadership Conference that will take place at The Brown Hotel, July 17, 2019. Commissioner Wilson communicated that they did asked if the Commission and other Human Rights partners would be interested in doing a panel at the Conference. Commissioner Wilson and Chair Glass asked Dinish to contact Chris Hartman with the Fairness Campaign for further information.

CROSS-CULTURAL COMMITTEE

No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Chair Glass noted possible speaker suggestions:

- University of Louisville President Dr. Neeli Bendapudi – still waiting response.
- Louisville Metro Housing Authority new director, Lisa Osanka – for February.
- New TARC Director – when appointed.

NEW BUSINESS

- Chair Glass noted that he will Email Dinish additional information regarding the Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast – 7:00a.m., Monday, January 21, 2019.
- Certification – Chair Glass inquired to Martha Lawfer whether the following individuals were certified – Painting Contractor, Steve Hobbs and Bridges Project, Steve Dunn of Dunn Electric. Martha communicated that Bobbi Selmon will contact him regarding his inquiry.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Dawn Wilson motion to adjourn, Commissioner Heather Williams seconded. Meeting adjourned at 10:00a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dinish Calhoun
Executive Assistant