



**CITY OF ANN ARBOR**

**Human Rights Commission**

**Prepared for informational purposes only**

**Date: May 9, 2012**

**Time In: 7:14 PM**

**Time Out: 8:50 PM**

**Location: Council Workroom**

**Committee Members Present:**

- Leslie Stambaugh, Chair**
- Neal Elyakin**
- Linda Winkler**
- Victor Turner**
- Council Member Sandi Smith**

**Commission Members Absent:**

**André Wilson**  
**Mohamad Issa**  
**Eleanore Adenekan**

**Also Present Were:**

**Tom Partridge, Ann Arbor Resident**

**I – Call to Order**

Chairperson Leslie Stambaugh called the meeting to order and Amy Seavitt recorded the minutes for members' information. A quorum of Commission members was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

## II – Opening

- Roll call for the meetings' minutes
- Public comment was made by Thomas Partridge, who discussed the need for increased human and civil rights protections for senior and disabled citizens.
- Changes to and approval of the agenda
  - L.Winkler amended the current agenda to include Immigration under section IV. New Business

## III – Matters Discussed – Old Business

- **Approval of the April Minutes** – L. Winkler motioned, seconded by N. Elyakin, that the Meeting Minutes be approved as amended by correcting the Date and Also Present Were sections, section I. Call to Order, II. Opening, III. Matters Discussed – Old Business, IV. Matters Discussed – New Business, V. Agenda Building for Next Meeting and VII. Adjournment. Motion carries.
- **The Video Privacy Ordinance Proposal** – The Commission was updated on the status of the proposal.
- **Elliott-Larsen Amendment and Protecting Local Protected Classes** – The Commission discussed how the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act currently does not offer protections based on sexual orientation and gender identity, and how they would like for this act to include more them as protected classes. The Commission talked about raising awareness for this amendment through a variety of means, including press releases and an introduction to City Council.
  - N. Elyakin resolved to move for the distribution of the solicitation for testimony about the impact of an amendment to ELCRA. V. Turner seconded. Motion carries.
- **Prioritization Status Check** – The Commission briefly discussed the current status of the Training Subcommittee and structural racism forums. N. Elyakin suggested having the subcommittee convene again before moving forward. Status checks were also discussed for the Internship Initiative and Non-Discrimination Ordinance.
- **Community Response Group Activity** – L. Stambaugh updated the Commission on the letter she had written to the editor at Ann Arbor News. The letter has yet to be published, and the Commission discussed whether print or online publication would be more beneficial.

## IV – Matters Discussed – New Business

- **Council Election and Its Ramification for the HRC** – The Commission discussed the possibility of present Council member Sandi Smith not running again for the upcoming November election and what council members would

replace S. Smith as the liaison to the Commission. The Commission decided to revisit the topic at a later date.

➤ **Immigration Cases**– L. Winkler informed the Commission about immigration cases where parents without immigration documentation are detained and their children are placed in temporary foster care rather than with family or friends who might also be undocumented. Likewise, if the parent is deported, children who are born in this country are placed in temporary foster care instead of being permitted to return with the parent to their original country. The Commission discussed potentially raising public awareness surrounding this issue after learning more about the topic. The Commissions will read more about the topic and revisit the issue at the next meeting.

#### **V – Agenda Building for Next Meeting**

- Chairperson L. Stambaugh informed the Commission of the free special viewing of the documentary Bully that will take place in Birmingham.
- Commissioner V. Turner informed the Commission of a USA Today article that highlighted West Virginia’s Human Rights Commission website. This website raises awareness about discrimination and allows for an easier avenue to file complaints. The Commission discussed revising their own Human Rights Commission website.

**VII – Adjournment** – at 8:50 PM, N. Elyakin motioned to adjourn the meeting. V. Turner seconded it. Meeting adjourned.