



**CITY OF ANN ARBOR**

**Human Rights Commission**

**Prepared for informational purposes only**

**Date: July 11, 2012**

**Time In: 7:11 PM**

**Time Out: 8:52 PM**

**Location: Council Workroom**

**Committee Members Present:**

**Leslie Stambaugh, Chair**

**Mohamad Issa**

**Linda Winkler**

**Victor Turner**

**Eleanore Adenekan**

**André Wilson**

**Neal Elyakin**

**Commission Members Absent: None**

**Also Present Were:**

**Marty Lewis, Member of the Community  
Sam Lewis, Member of the Community  
Karoline Hold, Member of the Community  
Oliver Scheele, Member of the Community**

## 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 meeting's minutes
- Public comments – None
- Changes to and approval of the agenda
  - A. Wilson moved to approve the current agenda, seconded by L. Winkler, to include the HRC Website and Council Liaison to IV. New Business. Motion carries.

## III – Matters Discussed – Old Business

- **Approval of the June Meeting Minutes** – L. Winkler motioned, seconded by E. Adenekan, that the Meeting Minutes be approved as amended by correcting sections III. Old Business. Motion carries.
- **The Video Privacy Ordinance Proposal** – The Commission discussed the progress of the ordinance. L. Stambaugh briefly detailed the message sent from William Leaf to Councilmember Carsten Hohnke.
- **Planning for the July 12 Hearing on Discrimination Based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity** – The Commission talked about the upcoming hearing they are co-sponsoring with the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, which will gather testimony on how adding sexual orientation and gender identity to the protected classes covered by the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act would impact Michigan citizens. L. Stambaugh read aloud the MDCR's opening comments and the Commission discussed final plans and the problems encountered in publicizing the event. The Commission will maintain a neutral position in the public hearing and recognized the need to create an atmosphere where all presentations get a fair hearing.
- **Race Project** – The Commission discussed the next steps to take in our partnership with the Race Project. Possible steps include exploring the issues identified in the Project's dialogues on race in greater depth and creating a report for City Council.
- **Immigration Follow-Up** – The Commission spoke about more recent stories involving immigration deportation.
- **Non-Discrimination Ordinance and Training** – Intern Matthew Bender highlighted findings from a report he created for the Commission. Bender contacted the cities of East Lansing, Ypsilanti, and Champaign, Illinois for information.

## IV – Matters Discussed – New Business

- **Graffiti Incidents** – The Commission discussed the swastika that was found spray painted on a McDonalds off of Stadium Boulevard. They also talked about the house at Jefferson Court that had been spray painted as well with ‘YOLO’ and a racial slur.
- **Requests Received** – L. Stambaugh distributed a letter written to a principal at a local public school that involved a child being bullied. The letter had been cc’d to the Commission. The Commission discussed how they will advise the parents to reach out to the superintendent.
- **Website Updates** – City Liaison, Amy Seavitt, detailed the options the Commission has for updating the Human Rights page on the City’s website. The Commission discussed creating a draft or proposal to pass on to A. Seavitt, so she may update as necessary.
- **Council Election** – The Commission had more discussion about identifying a Councilmember to act as liaison to the Commission when Sandi Smith’s term ends in November.

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

- V. Turner announced the passing of Carl Baird. Carl was an important member of this Commission for many years. He stepped down, following the illness of his wife, in November of 2009. He was an inspiration and news of his passing was received with sadness.

**VII – Adjournment** – at 8:52 PM, L. Winkler motioned to adjourn the meeting. E. Adenekan seconded it. Meeting adjourned.