



CITY OF ANN ARBOR

Human Rights Commission

Prepared for informational purposes only

Date: October 12, 2011

Time In: 7:12 PM

Time Out: 9:10 PM

Location: Council Workroom

Committee Members Present:

- Leslie Stambaugh, Chair**
- Victor Turner**
- Mohamad Issa**
- Andre Wilson**
- Linda Winkler (by phone)**

Commission Members Absent:

Neal Elyakin

Eleanore Adenekan

Also Present Were:

- Guest William Leaf, Video Privacy Ordinance**
- Guest Thomas 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 Committee members was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

II – Opening

- Roll call for the meetings' minutes.
- Changes to and approval of the agenda
 - A. Wilson asked permission to permit participation through electronic means by absent commissioners and, if permitted by other policies or rules, allowing it to be sufficient for a quorum. Noted that if the phone-in members are needed for the quorum, meeting would be closed if the phone connection could not be maintained.
 - A. Wilson moved to approve and seconded by V. Turner – all in favor
- Public comments – Public comments were given by Thomas Partridge expressing concerns with accessibility limitations for disabled residents and senior citizens for commissions meetings and polling places.

III – Matters Discussed – Old Business

- Approval of the September Minutes – M. Issa moved to approve, seconded by A. Wilson – all in favor.
- The Video Ordinance Proposal
 - The Commission spent time reviewing further strategy for passage of the proposal, including Sandi Smith meeting with City Administration next week to discuss concerns. It was decided it would not be submitted on 10/17/2011 to Council for Public Comments. W. Leaf is in the process of getting a list of current uses of video usage by city government. Will make talking points and compile a list of cities that this has happened to.
- Revision of Non-Discrimination Ordinance – Status and Next Steps – L. Stambaugh discussed e-mail follow up from N. Niemela, who had attached a version of Chapter 112 Anti-Discrimination with highlights of issues needing address. There was continued discussion of developing a subcommittee to spell out what the process should be for making the necessary changes. A. Wilson and L. Winkler volunteered to draft a proposal that would involve stakeholders and develop a timeline of action.
- Community Response – hate incident status. Further discussion of the “hate” incident from August and how Ann Arbor call takers are melding with Washtenaw County. The Commission questioned how the call takers might be trained and the different facets of that training (whether or not call takers' training involved hate vs. non hate crime scenarios). A. Wilson agreed to place several calls to other HRCs nationally to see how it is handled elsewhere.

IV – Matters Discussed – New Business

- Resolution on Attracting Talent to Michigan and Opposing HB 4770 and 4771 – in regards to health care domestic partnership benefits. Discussed how the bills limit talent retention in Michigan, as well as prospectively acquiring talent outside of the state. A. Wilson emphasized this benefit is typical with major employers and is good for the business of Michigan.
 - M. Issa moved to approve commission in supporting Attracting Talent to Michigan and Opposing HB 4770 and 4771, V. Turner seconded – all in favor.
- Introduction of House Bill 5039 – Discussion about how this House Bill would undermine the City's Anti-Discrimination ordinance. A. Wilson stressed it would void Human Rights pertaining to sexual orientation, gender identity and disability beyond municipalities, which would cripple our ability to attract and retain talent in Michigan.
- HRC History – L. Stambaugh informed commission of the retrieval of old HRC documents from previous years. Commission discussed potentially where to donate these articles, Bentley Library or the Labidie Collection and L. Stambaugh agreed to make inquiries and report back.

V – Commissioner Communication

- Commissioner Stambaugh advised the members of the Michigan Leadership Collaborative for Civil and Human Rights, which she will be attending the following week.

VI – Agenda Building for Next Meeting

- Commissioner Winkler recommended having the HRC potentially hire on a student intern to help assist several hours a week.
- Commissioner Turner notified the members about the Freedom Fund Dinner taking place on November 5, 2011 at 6:30 PM at the Sheraton Hotel for \$50, sponsored by the NAACP.

VII – Adjournment – at 9:10 PM, V. Turner motioned to adjourn the meeting. M. Issa seconded it. Meeting adjourned.