

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

<http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>



Formal Minutes - Final

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

7:00 PM

Larcom City Hall, 301 E Huron St, Basement, conference room

Human Rights Commission

I **CALL TO ORDER**

Leslie Stambaugh called the meeting to order at 7:10pm in the Basement Conference Room of City Hall.

II **OPENING****a** **ROLL CALL**

Present 8 - Chair Leslie Krauz Stambaugh, Linda Winkler, Dwight Wilson, Sumi Kailasapathy, Keta Joen Cowan, Graydon Krapohl, Sharifa Kerene Moore, and David Baum

Absent 1 - Pamela Dent (Meadows)

b **INTRODUCTION OF TWO NEW MEMBERS**

L. Stambaugh welcomed the two new commission members, David Baum and Sharifa Kerene Moore. Both commissioners provided a brief introduction of themselves to the commission.

c **PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Libby Hunter

d **CHANGES/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

L. Stambaugh invited Andre Wilson to speak to the commission about current LGBT issues happening around Ann Arbor and other parts of the country. She suggested that he have 10-15 minutes to speak to the commission, and she would like to place his presentation before the minutes approval section on the agenda.

L. Winkler motioned to adopt the agenda as amended, seconded by D. Baum. All in favor on a voice vote.

III **OLD BUSINESS**

1a Presentation of LGBT issues, Andre Wilson, former HRC Commissioner

Former Commissioner Andre Wilson discussed his knowledge and experience with policies regarding LGBT issues. He explained that the Michigan State Board of Education issued a memo in February describing proposed guidance supporting LGBT students in schools. In his experience with LGBT support for students in schools has led him to suggest that the Michigan guidance that has come out from the Board of Education is probably the best guidance he has ever seen, as it compiles best practices and ideas from all around the country. Andre suggested that a statement in support of what is truly good guidance from a body of elected officials, with the aid of citizen experts, should happen. He has drafted a resolution for the HRC to consider passing in support of this guidance.

In the first "resolve" he is suggesting that the commission support the passage as written of the proposed guidance, and write a letter in support of this guidance to each of the Board members on the State Board of Education. He would like to see that the guidance be adopted by schools. He would also like to see training for all staff on these issues, and for the resolution to be adopted by City Council.

A. Wilson explained that there is a time sensitivity issue, and that this would need to be decided on before the May 11 HRC meeting. Councilmember Kailasapathy spoke in support of proposing guidance. Councilmember Krapohl provided clarification on how the resolution would go to City Council.

L. Stambaugh asked the commission if anyone was not in agreement of moving this resolution along. The commission unanimously agreed to proceed with next steps. D. Baum, S.K. Moore, and L. Stambaugh agreed to draft a resolution using the Wilson draft as a foundation, circulate it, and hold a special meeting to finalize the resolution. All in favor of holding a special meeting, scheduled for April 27.

*All HRC commission meetings are available for later viewing through Ann Arbor's CTN Network. To watch this commission meeting which includes Andre's presentation on this resolution, following this link:
<http://a2govtv.pegcentral.com/player.php?video=737597a8c7e9fbc32aafde51cb10eb16>*

a CHANGES/APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

L. Winkler proposed changes to the minutes to the commission, and will email changes to H. Koch. D. Wilson made a motion to accept the changes to the minutes, seconded by D. Baum. All in favor of accepting the minutes as amended.

b MEMBERSHIP AND PROCEDURES

L. Stambaugh announced that Mohammad Issa and Logan Casey have both resigned as commissioners from the Human Rights Commission.

L. Stambaugh presented new changes to membership procedures to the commission. These changes were made in the City's updated Open Meetings Act policy. Anyone interested in applying for this commission should request an application from the Mayor's office, or by emailing the HRC.

c COMPLAINTS/REQUESTS

L. Stambaugh mentioned that there were two complaints that have been received by the HRC since the last meeting.

d PUBLICIZING HRC SERVICES AND EVENTS

L. Winkler re-capped the meeting with Lisa Wondrash, from the City's Communications department. She suggested that the first thing the commission do would be to work on the HRC webpage. D. Baum volunteered to help L. Winkler with the HRC webpage. She also discussed other ways that the Communications department can help the HRC get communications to the public.

L. Stambaugh also mentioned that the HRC can work with CTN to publicize information from the commission. K. Cowan and D. Baum volunteered to work with CTN on this.

e COMPLIANCE WITH NDO BY CITY CONTRACTORS

f POLICE OVERSIGHT REVIEW REPORT

S. Kailasapathy provided the HRC with an update on the progress of the report. The report was unanimously received by Council, and now it is going through the staff review process, and she predicts that staff should be responding by the first City Council meeting in June.

L. Stambaugh said that the Faith Leaders Forum has contacted the HRC to talk about policing. A few HRC commissioners will meet with them to figure out what exactly they want to discuss.

The commission discussed ways to send a positive message about the report, as it has possibly been negatively received by some members of the public.

g COMMUNITY EDUCATION/COMMUNICATION**h ANNUAL REPORT**

The Annual Report will serve as a tool for City Council to use in order to keep informed about what the HRC worked on in 2015. L. Stambaugh asked the commission if there was any changes that should be made to the current draft of the Annual Report.

D. Baum asked if it would be appropriate to make the edits L. Winkler suggested and attach the final copy to next month's meeting agenda for the commission to approve. On a voice vote, the commission agreed to this suggestion.

i NEWS NOTES**IV ADJOURNMENT**