

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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Meeting Minutes - Draft

Wednesday, October 13, 2021

7:00 PM

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Human Rights Commission

CALL TO ORDER

L. Stambaugh called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present all participants from Ypsilanti, Plymouth and Ann Arbor, MI.

Present 10 - Chair Leslie Krauz Stambaugh, Linda Winkler, Pamela Dent (Meadows), Travis Radina, Dilip Das, Keta Jeon Cowan, Ayesha Ghazi, Elizabeth Nelson, Diana Cass, and Aidan Sova

Absent 1 - Judah Garber

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were brought before the commission.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved as presented

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

21-1818 HRC August Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by A. Sova, seconded by D. Cass, that the Minutes be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council and should be returned by 11/15/2021. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

21-1839 HRC Strategic Planning Retreat Meeting Minutes

Approved

REPORTS ON OUTSIDE WORK**City Council**

CM T. Radina discussed two substantial decisions made by City Council regarding staffing. The Council approved a contract for Interim City Administrator to begin work on Monday, October 18, 2021 on a

unanimous vote. The Council is in the process of interviewing a finalist for City Attorney's position. CM E.Nelson stated the Council is investigating a complaint from the Human Resources Director and an independent investigation is underway.

Facial Recognition

A. Sova reported that the Facial Recognition Technology working group is currently in the process of submitting their feedback on the first draft ordinance to Deputy City Attorney Slay for review.

FOLLOWING UP ON ONGOING HRC WORK

Trepass

L. Stambaugh discussed the status of the work of the Trespass working group. A meeting will be planned with Ann Arbor Chief of Police to resolve some concerns related to policies and practices. L. Stambaugh will first make changes to group's memo to the Chief that reflects feedback received from local businesses.

Religious Head Coverings

L. Winkler gave an update on the working group on discrimination on the basis of religious headcoverings. The working group has not yet met. Will plan to meet and bring recommendations to the commission next month.

Anti-Asian Hate Town Hall

A. Ghazi-Edwin discussed the HRC's new community outreach group. They will plan town halls/listening sessions for Asian American Pacific Islanders (AAPI) and then other communities. Commissioners D. Das and A. Sova will help plan the first session.

Compilation of Complaint Data

L. Stambaugh discussed compiling HRC complaint data. K. Cowan will discuss with J. Garber and bring back recommendations to the commission.

Conversion Therapy Logistics

L. Stambaugh discussed reaching out to former HRC commissioner Rick Ratliff, who has experience with media and public relations, for

suggestions on publicizing the new ordinance banning conversion therapy. D. Cass talked about how to effectively get students involved in publicizing it, suggested HRC use the Ann Arbor Public Schools' Partnership Program, and will contact the Neutral Zone and other groups.

Fair Chance Housing Logistics

L. Winkler reported Deputy City Attorney Margaret Radabaugh confirms that as of late August the City's Building and Rental Services was working on sending notice of the new Fair Chance Access to Housing Ordinance to all registered landlords. Attorney Radabaugh was waiting to hear from them about whether that has been done.

Complaints

L. Stambaugh gave a brief summary of complaints that are currently pending before the HRC: There are 4 housing, 3 employment, and 1 trespass complaints. Of those, 5 allege discrimination on the basis of race, 1 on sexual orientation, 1 on source of income, and 1 on criminal background checks in housing.

OLD BUSINESS

Annual Report

L. Stambaugh discussed the 2020 HRC Annual Report. The report summarizes what the HRC has done throughout 2020. L. Winkler, moved to accept the Annual Report as written and send to Council, seconded by D. Das. The motion carried.

21-1904 HRC Annual Report 2020 Parts I & II

A motion was made by D. Cass, seconded by Dent (Meadows), that the Report be Approved by the Commission and Forwarded to the City Council. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

Scheduling Strategic Planning Follow Up

Commissioners discussed ways of better distributing the work of handling complaints among themselves.

Procedures (efficiency, effectiveness; outreach)

No further discussion.

Priorities for the Future

L. Stambaugh discussed project topics the HRC might be interested in pursuing in the future. The HRC will participate in the equity group the planning department is establishing. Another suggestion: Other ways the HRC can help inmates' reentry. Review Ghazi-Edwin's U of M School of Social Work students' research for further ideas.

NEW BUSINESS**COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS**

P. Dent suggested that the HRC be included in vetting candidates for the City's top management positions.

ADJOURNMENT

*A. Sova moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by A. Ghazi-Edwin.
Meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.*

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