



City of Ann Arbor

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Human Rights Commission

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
[http://a2gov.legistar.com/
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Wednesday, April 12, 2023

7:00 PM

Larcom City Hall, 301 E Huron St., Council
Chambers

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Enter Meeting ID 996 9403 7874

CALL TO ORDER

L. Stambaugh called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present 11 - Chair Leslie Krauz Stambaugh, Linda Winkler, Pamela Meadows, Keta Jeon Cowan, Judah Garber, Diana Cass, Aidan Sova, Brandon Bond, Sarah Peitzmeier, Ayesha Ghazi Edwin, and Linh Song

PUBLIC COMMENT

Citizens from the South Asia community addressed the commission regarding Caste discrimination in Ann Arbor.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved with changes

GUEST DISCUSSIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Milton Dohoney, City Administrator, Introduction and Q and A

Milton Dohoney, City Administrator gave a brief introduction about himself and discussed some of the challenges the City of Ann Arbor is currently facing. Question and answer period followed.

INTERNAL BUSINESS**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

23-0614 HRC March 2023 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Garber, seconded by Sova, that the Minutes be Approved by the Commission with changes and forwarded to the City Council and should be returned by 5/15/2023. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

Follow Up on Outside Group Work

City Council: CM L. Song reported the Council approved North Maple Apartments, a new 70 unit housing project with affordable housing. CM A.G. Edwin discussed DTE accountability. Both Council members plan to write a Resolution directing City Administrator Milton Dohoney to engage with Michigan Legislature and Michigan Public Service Commission to demand energy equity. CM L. Song reported on the Housing Commission funding for evictions contract expiring April 1st and re-dedicated City funding for rapid re-housing, and extending hotel vouchers. CM A.G. Edwin noted that the funds received from the Opioid settlement with CVS/Walgreens are going towards harm reduction in the community, substance abuse treatment, and mental health. CM L. Song announced the City will be partnering with UM's Poverty Solutions to provide \$500.00 per month to 100 families over the course of 2 years.

Facial Recognition: CM L. Song reported the draft proposal regulating the use of facial recognition technology in the City will go to the new Senior Assistant City Attorney - Prosecutor, Jennifer Janetsky for review. A. Sova reported that there will be substantive edits to the draft and will report back to the commission.

Follow Up on Ongoing HRC Work

Complaint Process: J. Garber reported on moving forward with the changes to the complaint handling process. He will be the front person in charge of assigning new complaints/inquiries to commissioners. J. Garber asked Commissioners to review the new Complaint and Inquiry Handling Procedures. L. Winkler asked that commissioners use the draft procedures when handling complaints/inquiries and submit any recommendations for changes to them.

Trespass Update: L. Winker reported the HRC is sending the final version of the revised AAPD Trespass Notice to the AAPD for review and printing.

UM Know Your Rights: L. Stambaugh reported she will not meet in April with the student government and UM's Equity, Civil Rights and Title IX (ECRT) office due to students beginning their finals. There is a possibility for a meeting this summer, but there will be no presentation until the Fall term. Part of the presentation has been drafted and when it has been completed, it will be shared with the Commission.

Identifying LGBTQ+ Human Rights Needs: S. Peitzmeier gave an update on her conversation with Equality Michigan about LGBTQ+ reporting their focus is on the State level legislation and expertise around advocacy. S. Peitzmeier suggested better access to gender inclusive or neutral bathrooms, the decriminalization of sex work, and making Ann Arbor a sanctuary city for reproductive rights as possible topics to explore further. B. Bond suggest engaging in community listening sessions as a potential next step and reaching out to the Neutral zone.

HRC Email List and Mailing: L. Stambaugh reported the Commission's email file has been updated and 220 email messages have been sent to people who are interested in the HRC's work. Notices from the Renters Commission and the Independent Community Police Oversight Commission (ICPOC) were included in the message.

OLD BUSINESS

Washtenaw ID/NDO

Government Issued ID/NDO: K. Cowan discussed why she has chosen to wait to follow up with the County. She plans to reach out to community groups to ask their input before structuring anything to solidify their collaboration. She noted the Michigan Legislature has pending bills that will permit undocumented citizens to apply for a driver's license. CM L. Song suggested reaching out to Michigan Senator Stephanie Chang who has been working on this legislation for 7 years.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Protected Class: Caste

CM A. G. Edwin discussed a proposal to add Caste to the Non-Discrimination Ordinance (NDO) as a protected class. She gave the commission a proposed definition of Caste and reported on what is taking place in the community. She and CM L. Song will work with Senior Assistant Attorney Margaret Radabaugh to refine the definition. K. Cowan, B. Bond and S. Peitzmeier will work on this with CMs A.G. Edwin and L. Song.

COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS

Renters Commission: L. Stambaugh has been in contact with the Renters Commission's Staff Liaison Kristen Vander Lugt. She will present at their June 15th meeting at 7:30 p.m. and they will present to the HRC in the near future. Both commissions address housing issues and will discuss ways they can help each other.

ADJOURNMENT

J Garber moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by A. Sova. Meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

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