



One City for All People

Full Commission Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 1 2017, from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM

Metro Office Building, 800 Second Avenue South, 2nd Floor, Nashville Room

The mission of the Metro Human Relations Commission is to protect and promote the personal dignity, peace, safety, security, health, and general welfare of all people in Nashville and Davidson County.

Commissioner Attendees: Samar Ali, Jeremy Davis, Phyllis Hildreth, Aisha Lbhalla, Lethia Mann, Oscar Miller, Abdishakur Mohamed, Avi Poster, Erin Pryor, Marisa Richmond, Janice Rodriguez, Frank Trew

Commissioner Absentees: Dave Garrison, Marcela Gomez, Jeff Gibson, Ellen Register, Peter Woolfolk

Others: Mel Fowler-Green (Ex. Dir., MHRC), Barbara R. Gunn Lartey (Dir. of Community Engagement, MHRC), Mark Murray (Metro Legal), Samantha Perez (Dir. of Policy and Research), Hershell Warren (Mayor's Office)

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** MHRC Board Chair, Frank Trew
Meeting was called to order at 4:03pm.
- II. **CONFIRM QUOROM** (Share regrets from Commissioners not in attendance; introduce guests)
Quorum was attained at meeting's inception.
- III. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
Minutes were reviewed and approved.
- IV. **FINANCIAL REPORT**
E.D. Fowler Green reported that we are on pace with expenses, similar to last year.
- V. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
 - **Nominating Committee:** Report on progress and proposed slate
The Nominating Committee has met and will introduce a slate of candidates for elections at the June meeting.
- VI. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - **Sam Perez:** Policy Discussion re Post Retreat Follow-Up, *continued*
Sam Perez reviewed issues that Commissioners identified as a priority, including criminal justice and immigration issues.
Significant discussion ensued.
Sam will revisit these issues at the July Meeting.
- VII. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Executive Director, Mel Fowler-Green
 - Budget Update
E.D. Fowler-Green reported that the Mayor did not award us the budget increase for an FTE.

Commissioner Ali initiated a discussion, including her willingness to assist with strategies to enhance our ability to advocate for an FTE.

Significant discussion ensued regarding this matter.

- Volunteers are needed for events several upcoming events, including the Music City Iftar on Monday, June 5th, the MNPDP Mobile Diversity Seminar on Monday, June 12th, and the Fisk Music Fest on Saturday, July 1st.
 - * **Monday, June 5: Music City Iftar:** Commissioner Lbhalla requested that we meet a MCC since we'll be there for the Iftar. Fellow Commissioners agreed. E.D. Fowler-Green said that is a great idea and will confer with MCC to reserve a room for the meeting.

Commissioner Recommend asked if we could meet later. E.D. Fowler-Green responded that she's concerned about a later meeting and having to prepare for the Iftar. Sam offered that our responsibilities are not as strenuous as they were last year at Oz. E.D. Fowler-Green concurred and said she would consider a later time.
 - * **Monday, June 12: MNPDP Mobile Diversity Seminar:** Several Commissioners expressed an interest in participating, including CBC Trew and Commissioners Hildreth, Mann and Miller.
 - * **Saturday, July 1: Fisk Food and Music Fest:** Commissioners said they will check their schedules and follow up at the June meeting.

VIII. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no Public Comment.

IX. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Hildreth announced that on June 7th there will be an observance for victims of lynching at Fisk University followed by a conversation at Lipscomb. She'll send a link.

X. **ADJOURN**

Commissioner Hildreth moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Rodriguez seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 5:55pm.

Appeal of Decisions From the Metro Human Relations Commission

If you are not satisfied with a decision of the Metropolitan Human Relations Commission, you may appeal the decision by petitioning for a writ of certiorari with the Davidson County Chancery or Circuit Court. Your appeal must be filed within 60 days of the date of the entry of the Human Relations Commission's decision. We advise that you seek your own independent legal advice to ensure that your appeal is filed in a timely manner and that all procedural requirements have been met.

If any accommodations are needed for individuals with disabilities who wish to be present at the meeting, please contact MHRC at 615-880-3370 or MHRC@nashville.gov. Requests should be made as soon as possible but at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting in order for the entity to provide such needed aid or service.