



Draft

**CITY OF YPSILANTI
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, March 24, 2014
7:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order 7:02 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Benjamin Elmgren	Present
Claudia Pettit	Present
Arika Lycan	Absent
Krista Nordberg	Absent
Glen Sard	Present
Darlene Scott	Absent
John Shuler, Chair	Present
Jennifer Symanns	Present

A quorum of five (5) was present with three (3) members absent.

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

Commissioner Elmgren moved, supported by Commissioner Symanns to add an item regarding same sex marriage. On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

The agenda was approved as amended.

IV. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- November 25, 2013
- January 27, 2014

Commissioner Symanns moved, supported by Commissioner Elmgren to approve the minutes. On a voice vote the minutes were approved as submitted.

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Election of HRC Chair

Commissioner Symanns nominated Commissioner Shuler as Chair for another term. Commissioner Sard nominated Commission Symanns as Vice-Chair for another term.

On a voice vote, the motion carried and Commissioner Shuler was approved for another term as Chair.

On a voice vote, the motion carried and Commissioner Symanns was approved for another term as Vice-Chair.

B. Approval of Year End Report

Chair Shuler distributed the annual report and pointed out revisions. He stated that a goal was added to have the Commission vacancy filled. Mr. Shuler indicated he would attend the next Council meeting in case there are questions regarding the annual report.

Commissioner Symanns moved, supported by Commissioner Pettit to approve the annual report. On a voice vote the motion carried and the report was approved.

C. Discussion and Planning for Hispanic/Latino Forum.

Commissioner Sard gave an overview on the progress of the forum. He said he received an email from their contact person and suggested that the forum be moved to late May or June because the agency would like to share their information and findings with government agencies first. He said the forum could be used as a mechanism to get feedback from the public on the information.

He said he would like the Commission to consider scheduling the forum for a Thursday in June. He pointed out that the May 31st meeting would have been a holiday and suggested the meeting May meeting be held on a Thursday. Currently, there is no meeting scheduled for May and he suggested that a planning meeting be scheduled.

Commissioner Elmgren suggested that the HRC collaborate and piggyback with other agencies in order to get more participation in the forums. He suggested that the HRC inquire about partnership.

Chair Shuler commented that maybe the HRC could be one of the dissemination groups to help get the information out.

Commissioner Sard said it sounds like the agency would like to control the distribution of the initial information. He said it may be better to let people digest the information and then have the forum. He suggested that HRC members attend the presentation to hear the information.

Chair Shuler asked if HRC could get a copy of the blank survey the agency used to develop their information.

Commissioner Sard said he would ask if the Commission could attend the first presentation and if they could have a copy of the blank survey.

The Commission discussed possible dates for the forum in June.

Chair Shuler suggested that the Commission set a date at the April meeting.aid
he would call the Senior Center and set a date f

Commissioner Sard said he contact the Senior Center and Commissioner Scott regarding availability. Mr. Sard apologized for the delay and said he thinks having it later is better because it will be more impactful and informative. He said the forum will also be more useful after the agency information has been shared.

Commissioner Symanns said she is willing to revise the flier template.

D. Letter regarding Same Sex Marriage

Commissioner Elmgren distributed a copy of a letter addressed to Governor Rick Snyder and Attorney General Bill Schuette urging them to discontinue the appeal of Judge Friedman's recent ruling on same sex marriage.

The Commission reviewed and discussed the letter and agreed to draft a resolution to present to City Council at its next regular meeting.

The Commission discussed and wrote a resolution urging the Governor and the Attorney General to discontinue the appeal and allow Judge Friedman's ruling to stand.

Commissioner Symanns moved, supported by Commissioner Elmgren to approve the resolution.

On a voice vote the motion carried.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE

April 28, 2014

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.