



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

Human Rights Commission

Wednesday, October 2, 2019

5:15 PM

5th Floor Conference Room

Call to Order

Julie McDermid called the meeting to order at 5:26 pm.

Roll Call

Present: 6 - Julie McDermid, A Xiong, Justice Weaver, Brandon Perrine, Rhonda Staats, Chauncy M. Turner

Excused: 1 - Nese Nasif

Absent: 1 - Jonathan Maye-Cates

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Perrine, seconded by Staats, to accept the meeting minutes from September. The motion carried by voice vote.

Agenda Items:

It was proposed to add an agenda item to discuss a new meeting date and time. Motioned by Staats, second by Perrine. Motion carried by voice vote. Turner stated he would be able to participate on the Commission if group meeting time could be altered again. Discussion on an agreeable day/time. Staats motions first Monday of the month at 5:15 pm, Perrine seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.

Update on Waking Up White reading group.

Review of past discussion. Suggestions made regarding groups the HRC would like to "challenge" including local Ministerial/Clergy Associations, Chamber of Commerce (specifically their Board Members), and the Northside Small Business Association. Julie provided copies of the books to Commissioners. Agreed that Commissioners have an opportunity to read the books before any further plans are made. Will revisit discussion in November.

Update on HRC Website redesign.

Nasif not in attendance to provide update on UWL students agreeing to assist. Will revisit in November and request update from Nasif.

Update on affordable housing collaborations.

Review of past discussions. McDermid shared discussions she had with Caroline Gregerson from City Community Development Department and Rebecca Schwarz from YWCA Advocacy Committee. McDermid will convene Turner, Xiong, Pam Hartwell from HFH, Rebecca Schwarz from YWCA, Caroline Gregerson and Jason Gilman to discuss formation of possible "task force" and to identify other community stakeholders who should be involved and a possible lead organization or individual. Review progress in November.

Commissioners also chose to briefly/informally discuss the matrix sent by Jason Gilman. There was no formal decision, but it was agreed that each Commissioner would take responsibility for some part of the matrix to help build out the overall strategic plan. Commissioners then assigned themselves parts of the matrix. McDermid will create shared Google Doc for all Commissioners to edit/comment on. Commissioners also briefly/informally discussed GARE membership.

(1) Is there a direct contact person with GARE that Commissioners can reach out to with specific questions? Will ask Jason Gilman to provide more information if possible at November meeting.

(2) Staats stated that GARE materials are not accessible. How can this be corrected? Possibly review with a direct contact at GARE. Revisit discussion in November meeting.

Adjournment

Perrine motions to adjourn, Xiong seconds. Motion carried by voice vote.
Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Notice is further given that members of other governmental bodies may be present at the above scheduled meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility.

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

Requests from persons with a disability who need assistance to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk's office at (608) 789-7510 or send an email to ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org, with as much advance notice as possible.