



Human Relations Commission

Minutes

June 13, 2019 6:30 P.M.

Village Hall

3930 N. Murray Avenue, Shorewood, WI 53211

1. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m.

Members present: Sharveta Parker, Kerri Balliet, Sarah Spencer, Jesse Dercks, and student members Mira Lee Prabhu and Julia Appel

Others present: Assistant Village Manager Tyler Burkart, Trustee Davida Amenta, Lt. Thomas Liebenthal, Matt Weiss, Natraj Shanker, Mike Huth, Joe Pliner, Ana Belen Duran, Marie Britebock, Eileen Lauer, Aaron Schuetz

Members not present: McKenzie Edmonds, Gladys Mitchell-Walthour (excused to attend School District meet and greet of the Director of Equity candidates)

2. Consider Approval of April 11, 2019 minutes

Ms. Balliet moved to approve the April 11 minutes. Motion seconded by Mr. Dercks. Motion approved by a 4-0 vote.

3. Public Comments

No public comments.

4. Discuss Observations in the Community

Ms. Appel mentioned the Village will be considering the adoption of an ordinance against conversion therapy for June 17.

5. Staff Liaison Updates

The Farmers Market will have an open table for public groups to present and engage with residents. Ms. Parker signed the Commission up for July 7. Ms. Barriet and Ms. Spencer volunteered to be there. A few representatives of the Commission should be there with materials to share informing community members of the Commission. There will be a special meeting on Tuesday, June 18 at 6 p.m. to interview candidates for the HRC opening. A few Commission members will need to be in attendance. The Village Board is asking for the HRC's recommendation on which individual to appoint. Mr. Burkart recommends looking for more policy focused individuals to provide further assistance on the policies waiting for HRC recommendation for the Village Board to consider. The community survey results are in. A total of 781 responses were received. Mr. Burkart is looking through the data and will provide to the Data sub-committee for their July sub-committee meeting. Lastly, the HRC's annual report and priorities was submitted to the Village Board. The Village Board will meet on June 24 to review all reports and discuss future initiatives.

6. Discuss Next Steps for Diversity Dining Event

Ms. Balliet provided a report on the diversity dining event. To target and reach out to businesses, the Education Subcommittee generated a letter to send out. The Committee determined August 8 to be the deadline to receive funding commitments.

7. Discuss Developing Annual Report of Community Incidents

Mr. Burkart mentioned the ordinance requires the Commission to complete an annual report that documents the community incidents brought forward to the Human Relations Commission. The Commission discussed how they would document the number of incidents, especially ones that haven't been reported to the Commission. It was recommended for the Data Subcommittee to put together the report prior to the completion of the annual report. Commission members should continue communicating incidents in the "discuss observations in the community" part of the meeting. In addition, there was discussion about the Committee formulating another process or diversity forum for community members to report incidents. There was also discussion about producing a form to place on the Village website for incidents to also be reported to the Commission, which the Data Subcommittee will take a closer look at in July.

8. Discuss Student Representation and Voting Rights

Mr. Dercks mentioned the desire to allow the two student members to have two votes. The Commission directed Mr. Burkart to amend the ordinance and propose it to the Village Board. Ms. Spencer moves to amend the ordinance to allow voting rights for students, specifically two students to have two votes. Mr. Dercks seconds the motion. The motion approved 4-0.

9. Report from Sub-Committee Groups

a. Education, Programming, and Outreach

The subcommittee will pick a date and plan for a diversity forum in September. Mr. Dercks mentioned he would be able to moderate. The subcommittee would like to meet with the LGBTQ ally student group at a future date. Members of the subcommittee will also be doing ride-alongs and would like a Shorewood Today article summarize their experience. There is discussion on setting up training for inclusivity for Village officials and Commission members.

b. Process, Policy, and Legislative Review

There was a brief update on the holiday decoration policy. The policy will be back on the full Commission in August asking for a final recommendation on the policy.

c. Data Analytics, Documentation, and Reporting

Mr. Weiss was in attendance to provide a data subcommittee update. They will be taking a closer look at social media data and any information that could be provided through Village hiring processes. The subcommittee is also considering a recommendation for HRC members to attend block parties and use that as an opportunity to discuss HRC items and further resources.

10. Future Agenda Topics and Speakers

Lt. Liebenthal provided an update from the Police Department. There was a recent diversity training that officers went through, including proper pronouns, identity, and ways to address hate crimes.

11. Adjournment

Ms. Parker moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Ms. Balliet. Motion approved by 4-0 vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tyler Burkart
Assistant Village Manager