



## **Human Relations Commission**

### **Minutes**

**September 9, 2021 6:30 P.M.**

via Teleconference

**1. Call to order.**

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

Members present: Shavonda Sisson, Charlie DeSando, Sharveta Parker, Matt Weiss, Maria Van Hoorn, Ana Belen Duran Lopez,

Others present: School Board Member Pablo Muirhead, President Ann McKaig

Members not present: McKenzie Edmonds,

**2. Consider Approval of August 12, 2021 minutes**

Ms. Parker moved to approve the August 12, 2021 minutes. Motion seconded by Mr. DeSando. Motion approved by a 6-0 vote.

**3. Presentation by Teig Whaley-Smith from the Collective Affordable Housing Plan**

Mr. Teig Whaley-Smith from the Community Development Alliance presented on the Collective Affordable Housing Plan. There were questions and discussion centered around the ways housing can bring racial diversity to the Village. Additional discussion relayed educational methods and strategic messaging to engage the public on affordable housing. It was mentioned that the Village Board vote on the parking ratios during the September 8 meeting is connected to the presentation shared tonight. Mr. Burkart summarized the policy discussion and mentioned that Commission members could make a policy recommendation on the matter during their October meeting if they wanted to do so.

**4. Public Comments**

Residents Ms. Elly Pick and Ms. Stephanie Spicuzza shared the letter they sent to President McKaig about the Police Chief recruitment and a number of questions and recommendations they have about the process. Members of the Police Accountability Group will meet with President McKaig to further discuss the letter and identify next steps. There was additional discussion about the language used in the letter and lessons learned from past experiences. Members shared how experiences being pulled over are significantly different between a black and white person. Another comment shared suggested the letter was very pointed at President McKaig and suggested it isn't appropriate for members of the public to have the ability to directly interview candidates for a Village position.

**5. Discuss Observations in the Community**

No observations expressed.

**6. Staff and Village Board Liaison Updates**

Mr. Burkart reported that currently a total of 16 people between staff and officials have signed up for the YWCA Unlearning Racism and Conversations on Race sessions. President McKaig reported out on a plan of upcoming initiatives to be brought to the Commission. The Commission will act as a point of contact for some policy-related discussions.

**7. Discuss and Consider Recommendations for the Police Chief Recruitment Services Request for Proposals (RFP)**

Mr. Burkart summarized the RFP document that will go out to seek proposals from prospective recruiting firms. Members can also attend the upcoming Police Commission meeting and the September 20 Village Board meeting to remain engaged on this step of the process. Mr. Burkart shared there is now a website and Notify Me to get updates. Ms. Parker with Ms. Sisson as an alternate will serve on the selection committee for a recruiting firm.

**8. Subcommittee Updates on Implementing Plans to Address Racial Inequities**

Policy – Ms. Duran shared the policy subcommittee’s intention to review hiring practices. Mr. Burkart asked if the subcommittee could review language he may add to the RFP related to a diversity statement.

Education – Ms. Sisson shared the progress on the next Shorewood Speaks in November centered around affordable housing.

Data – Mr. Weiss shared they will be assessing the 2020 U.S. Census data information. Captain Liebenthal also provided updated Police data. Mr. Burkart asked the data subcommittee to begin putting together the annual report and reach out if help is needed. The subcommittee should also begin thinking about possible 2022 community survey questions to proposed on behalf of the HRC.

**9. Future Agenda Items and Speakers**

No future agenda items or speakers.

**10. Adjournment**

Mr. Weiss moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Ms. Duran. Motion approved by 6-0 vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tyler Burkart  
Assistant Village Manager