

## MINUTES

### Mayor's Commission on Human Rights And Community Relations

April 15, 2015, Meeting  
First Floor Conference Room, Busch Municipal Building  
5:30-7:30 p.m.

**Commissioners Present:** John Duckett chair, David Knox vice chair, Roger Cotton, Joy Qualls, Dan Scott, Jeremy Trapp.

**Absent:** Jeff Kester, Emily Journagan, Christina Ryder, Todd Thomas.

**Staff Member Present:** Brendan Griesemer

Called to order at 5:33 by Chair, John Duckett.

It was **Moved**, **Seconded**, and **Carried (MSC)** to approve the minutes from March.

John introduced Jerry Bear, Executive Director of the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) whom he had connected with lately, to tell us about their organization. They have a comprehensive care program for people afflicted with any of 40 types of MD, including ALS. The Commission can help as a facilitator for helping businesses to see the need for public wheel chair access. In fact, in the process of John connecting with the association he observed an access problem where they were meeting and was able to get the owners to correct it.

The Commission confirmed that we will have an information booth at the MD Muscle Walk fundraiser on May 2, at Nathaniel Greene Park, starting at 9:00 am. David, Todd, and Dan will hand out promotional items and grill burgers (the meat is being donated). It was agreed by consensus to use the \$500 allocated last month for the event's promotional items to purchase water bottles with our logo, name, and face book page on them, at 78 cents each.

It was **MSC** to allocate \$200 for tickets to the National Day of Prayer on May 7, at University Plaza, at 7:00 am. Commissioners may invite a guest to attend. Dan will send out an announcement about the details.

Jeremy will invite the Council of Churches to send someone to our next meeting to tell about their work and how we can help them. It was suggested that another group for us to reach out to for better understanding is the Greene County Baptist Association.

Considering some of the allegations made about the Commission leading up to the recent election, the commissioners agreed that we need to work harder to help the community

understand what we do and what we do not do. We also would like to clarify some of our part of the city's strategic plan but we understand that the city is not allowing changes at this time.

It was agreed that the commissioners would benefit from a report each month on how each case that came to the Commission in the past month was handled.

The meeting was closed at 6:34 to discuss two recent cases.

The meeting was reopened at about 6:44 and concluded with the suggestion that we have a weekend training session on how to deal with the cases that come to us. John will look into possible trainers.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48.

Submitted by Roger Cotton

Next meeting: May 20, First Floor Conference Room, Busch Municipal Building 5:30-7:30 p.m.