

**Mayor's Commission on Human Rights
and Community Relations**

MINUTES

The Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations met by Zoom on July 15, 2020. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Heather Hardinger.

Present	Heather Hardinger, Chair; Pamela Hernandez, Communications Officer, Carlye Wannenmacher, Vice Chair; Mike Jungers, Daniel Ogunyemi, and Mary Bozarth
Absent	Bob Roberts
Public	Gloria Galanes, Tim Havens and Matthew Simpson
Staff	Bob Atchley, Bob Jones and Judy White, Planning and Development Department, Kyle Tolbert, Law Department and Cora Scott, Public Information Office
Approval of Minutes	Mike Jungers moved to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2020 MCHRCR Meeting. Pamela Hernandez seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
Public Comments	Mr. Havens addressed the Commission regarding rights issue with the Police Department.
Recognize Jennifer Charleston – Springfield Police Department's LGBTQ+ Liaison	Commission acknowledges the appointment of Officer Charleston as the LGBTQ+ liaison.
Unfinished Business	Update on HUD Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice • Bob Jones gave an update stating that City Council adopted the HUD Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice and the Resource Guide that was suggested by Commission was included in the final report. • Next steps would be to discuss collaboration on developing the Resource Guide. • Mike Jungers suggested contacting the Give 5 Program as they have put together a lot of this information. Cora stated that she would be able to obtain the Give 5 Program guide and will distribute to the Commission for review. Cora offered her staff to as a design resource. Also, Mike Jungers volunteered to work on the Resource Guide. Another source for information would be Prosper Springfield and 211. Review of the Results of the Inclusion Survey and Discussion of Common Themes and Next Steps • Gloria Galanes gave an overview of the first four (4) of the open-ended questions. Putting the questions together by basic themes and creating two reports; 1) Incorporate more of the comments that gives an idea of what the respondents are feeling 2) summarize the comments that are more compelling and insightful. Reports should be finished by the end of the month. • Heather Hardinger stated that the themes and what was important to the respondents need get into the report. Also, Heather will share Gloria's work that is done so far for the Commissioners to see where the process is.

New Business**Tough Talks**

- Prosper Springfield and CPO gathered leaders to create a structure for conversations in the community around race and equity. Francine Pratt and her team have a plan in place and hope to execute this in August depending on COVID-19. Heather Hardinger will share with the Commission the outline for the Tough Talks.

Miscellaneous**Expand the Commission:**

- Pamela Hernandez mention that the need to lay the foundation for a paid staff and to expand the Commission.
- Cora Scott mentioned that Jason Gage put in the budget pre-COVID-19 a Chief Equity Officer. If funded, this position would work directly and fully staff the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights. Also, this position would need support staff and PIO would support them on the public information side and material side. Need to have a direct line to the City Manager so they have the authority and organization to truly navigate among the City Departments and be out in the community, be the staff person to assist the Commission and to give a budget to work with. The City is working with an amended budget due to COVID-19, but this is a good sign for the future as this has not been done before.
- Daniel Ogunyemi stated that this is what needs to be done and have a direct line to the Mayor and City Manager.
- Matt Simpson also wanted state that a) move forward on action and b) commit the require resources to do this and this is beyond one person or a drawn-out task force effort. We are at a stage we can use this to make real progress.
- Mike Jungers mentioned that the Commission needs reach out to equity officers at major organizations within the City and to learn what are the lesson in terms of what would be adequate resources and what is important in creating this position.
- Bob Atchley mentioned that if there were a full-time staff person, the Commission could be recognized by the State Commission on Human Rights and would gain additional authority regarding complaints.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:55 p.m.

Prepared by Judy
White

Heather Hardinger, Chair