

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

MINUTES

The Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations met by Zoom on August 19, 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, Mary Bozarth, and Bob Roberts
Absent	Daniel Ogunyemi
Public	Gloria Galanes and Natosha Lancaster
Staff	Bob Atchley 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 July 15, 2020 MCHRCR Meeting. Pamela Hernandez seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
Public Comments	None
New Business	Milly Sawyers Project – Leadership Springfield • Natosha Lancaster, representing the Milly Project and the Milly Sawyers Initiative presented the history of Milly Sawyers and explained that the Milly Sawyers Project has two requests 1) asking that they seek and gain civic recognition of Milly Sawyers' history and 2) rename Boonville Avenue from Park Central Square to Commercial Street to Milly Sawyers Avenue. Ms. Lancaster asked for a letter of support in favor of these changes and recognition from the Commission to City Council. • Natosha stated that they have created a letter of support that she will forward to Heather for signature from the Commission. Review of the Mayor's Commission On-Call Schedule • August – Heather Hardinger • September – Carlye Wannenmacher • October – Pamela Hernandez • November – Mike Jungers • December – Daniel Ogunyemi If any months are unavailable, please let Heather know.
Unfinished Business	Review of the Results of the Inclusion Survey and Next Steps • Gloria Galanes gave an overview of the survey conclusions (see attached) • Cora Scott discussed the different organizations within Springfield that would interact together on diversity and inclusion • Heather and Cora met with Mayor McClure regarding the survey and next steps. They are working on a date to present the survey and results at a City Council lunch, possibly early October. Cora and her team will be working on a communication plan, i.e., PDF version of the results; PowerPoint presentation for the Commission to take for group presentations. Also, other media type presentations along with an online presence. The goal is to have some deliverable sometime in September that would be ready for the early October meeting.

- Suggestion to add to the website a list of people that do the equality and diversity training, so businesses know who to contact to bring into their organization for training/conversation.
- Mike Jungers requested a statement to be added stating that there is a group of citizens that are hostile to the idea of diversity efforts. Gloria will add a statement saying, “given people’s hostile to this topic that it is surprising that they answered the survey, so likely they are underrepresented in terms of the population”.
- Next steps: Need to create a strategy and a common vision on how to addresses the welcoming deficit.

Mike Jungers made a motion to adjourn at approximately 6:29 p.m. Bob Robert seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Prepared by Judy
White

Heather Hardinger, Chair