

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

MINUTES

The Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations met by Zoom on Wednesday, April 21, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Mike Jungers, at approximately 5:35 pm.

Present	Carlye Wannenmacher, Chair; Pamela Hernandez, Mike Jungers, Daniel Ogunyemi, and Bob Roberts
Absent	None
Public	None
Staff	Bob Atchley, Judy White, Planning and Development Department, Kyle Tolbert, Jill Burris, Law Department
Approval of Minutes	Pamela Hernandez moved to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2021 MCHRCR Meeting. Bob Roberts seconded the motion. The motion was approved.
Public Comments	None
New Business	Discussion of the Human Rights Campaign Foundation Municipal Equality Index (MEI) Scorecard for Springfield • The HRC issues a new MEI scorecard every year without much change with the draft typically being sent out in March or April. Then there is time to submit information for changes and the scorecard hasn't been received yet for 2021. • Carlye mentioned an improvement from last year, which is a change in the City's policy on inclusive healthcare benefits for transgender employees. • Inclusive workplace is something Carlye would like some conversation around. The Human Resources Department was working on resource groups for the LGBTQ community, which would create awareness and education through different types of groups. Another opportunity she sees could be an LGBTQ Liaison through the Mayor or City Manager's office. • There was discussion surrounding the interview of the candidate for the Diversity and Inclusion Director position as well as next steps the commission will take once the position is finalized. • Mike thinks the scorecard would be received around June which might be a good time to focus discussion on the accuracy of the scorecard and possibly offering recommendations to the Diversity and Inclusion Director. • Kyle introduced Jill Burris, the new Planning Department attorney, that will be taking over for him. • Mike mentioned the commission is down to 5 members and can have up to 15. He has suggested drafting a letter to the Mayor and City Council as he would like them to review their processes to see if any changes could be made to increase membership. Carlye had been having discussions with Cora Scott stating that a press release will be approved and pushed out. Discussions around increasing membership continued. • Mike motioned that he drafts a letter, which would be added to next month's agenda for discussion and approval. Pamela seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

**Unfinished
Business**

The commission thanked Kyle for his service and help.

Carlye adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:27 p.m. with a motion from Mike Jungers and a second from Carlye Wannenmacher.

Carlye Wannenmacher, Chair