

**URBANA HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
MINUTES
November 13, 2002**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cope Cumpston, Carl Reisman, Marion Knight, Ivon Ridgeway, Ralph Langenheim, Anne Grabow

MEMBERS ABSENT: Turk Peacock

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Naomi Jakobsson, Lester Pritchard, Tatiana Camargo-Schrader

STAFF PRESENT: Vacellia Clark, Chief Adair

GUESTS: Ruth Fliegel, Amy Kummerow, Esther Patt, Cleveland Jefferson

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

There being a quorum, Chair Knight called the meeting of the Urbana Human Relations Commission to order at 5:35 p.m.

II. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were none.

III. CHIEF ADAIR – DISCUSSION OF DEMOGRAPHIC CONTACT DATA

Chief Adair reported on the demographic contact data for police stops that was included in the packet. He indicated that there has been an increase in non-report traffic due to the changes in the reporting.

Carl Reisman requested traffic stop information broken down by race.

There was a discussion about adding location and the Chief indicated that the field interview cards list location.

Cope Cumpston asked about mobile computer systems. The Chief indicated that they are still being worked on. There were some issues that needed to be worked out with the State.

Marion Knight asked how many complaints have been filed against the Police Department over the last year. Chief Adair indicated that there have been approximately 18 or 19 complaints filed, mostly traffic related (not being satisfied with police action or service received). There were no complaints filed pertaining to use of force or alleging any criminal activity on the part of police officers.

Marion Knight asked how the number of minorities has changed within the department regarding black males and women. Chief Adair reported that the testing that was recently done went well, however, we are not competitive with private enterprise.

Cope Cumpston asked if the 2001 Annual Report had been completed. Chief Adair stated that it is now on the City's web page.

The Commissioners thanked Chief Adair for attending and giving them an update of the Police Department.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES -

The minutes of the meeting of October 9, 2002 were reviewed. A motion was made by Ralph Langenheim and seconded by Carl Reisman to approve.

Cope Cumpston indicated that the minutes needed to be corrected to show that Anne Grabow was excused from the last meeting.

There being no further comments, all voted aye. The minutes of the meeting of October 9, 2002 were approved as corrected.

V. PUBLIC INPUT

Ruth Fliegel addressed the commission to compliment them on the Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration.

Ms. Fliegel also complimented Officer Chacon on doing training in Spanish for U of I and Champaign.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to be brought before the commission.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Report on 2003 Martin Luther King Celebration Preparations

Vacellia Clark reported that she is scheduling a meeting of the subcommittee and that they are currently still trying to identify a keynote speaker.

Cope Cumpston reported that she is the Urbana representative for campus activities and is impressed with what is being done to reach out to the community. The campus Martin Luther King Celebration will be held on Monday, January 20, 2003 from 3 to 6 p.m. at the U of I and is being set up to attract families with children.

B. Discussion on Statistical Data for the City's 2002 Hiring Activities

Vacellia Clark distributed a handout of information that will be put in a letter to the Mayor regarding information requested.

Cope Cumpston suggested that Mona Shannon and Bruce Walden be invited to the next meeting.

There was a discussion about what types of information the Commission would like to see.

Ms. Clark suggested asking for this information and then request more comprehensive documentation at a later date.

Ms. Clark distributed a copy of the recommendations that came out of the diversity training in March.

Cope Cumpston asked for an upgrade of the 10 strategies that Mr. Walden had presented to the Commission and if any goals have been set, which were presented by Mr. Walden and the Mayor.

Marion Knight asked if any actions have been taken on the recommendations of the trainer. Ms. Clark indicated that they have not.

The Commission decided that Bruce Walden and Mona Shannon would be invited to the January commission meeting.

VIII. OFFICER'S REPORT

A. HRO Activity Report

Ms. Clark distributed a copy of her monthly report.

Ms. Clark indicated that she has one open case that has been a very difficult case and she hopes to be able to issue a finding by the end of the month, she had to request additional information.

Cope Cumpston asked about training on housing. Ms. Clark reported that she has contacted Bob Grewe in Grants Management to see if they could help provide training. Ms. Clark will follow up with him.

B. Budget Report

Ms. Clark reported that the budget report was not ready for tonight's meeting.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Clark shared a thank you card that was sent from the NAACP, thanking the Commission for purchasing two tables for their banquet.

Ms. Clark informed the Commission that Mike Nichols, the Building Inspector, recently passed away.

Ivon Ridgeway offered congratulations to Ralph Langenheim and Naomi Jakobsson on their recent elections.

Marion Knight emphasized to the Commission how important it is to attend the scheduled meeting. He stated that the ordinance provides that any commissioner who misses 3 consecutive meetings can be considered to have vacated their position.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, a motion was made by Ralph Langenheim and seconded by Ivon Ridgeway to adjourn. All voted aye. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jolinda Ross
Recording Secretary