

**URBANA HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
MINUTES
February 12, 2003**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cope Cumpston, Marion Knight, Carl Reisman, Turk Peacock, Ivon Ridgeway, Ralph Langenheim

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tatiana Camargo-Schrader, Anne Grabow

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Lester Pritchard, Ralph Langenheim

STAFF PRESENT: Vacellia Clark

GUESTS: Ruth Fliegel, Esther Patt, Amy Kummerow, 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

Lester Pritchard asked to have the Annual Report listed under New Business. Cope Cumpston requested to discuss Vendors over \$10,000 and the Black Women's Achievement Dinner under New Business.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of January 8, 2003 were reviewed. A motion was made by Turk Peacock and seconded by Ralph Langenheim to approve the minutes as presented. All voted aye. The minutes of the meeting of January 8, 2003 were approved as written.

IV. PUBLIC INPUT -

Cleveland Jefferson addressed the Commission on diversity at the City of Urbana. Mr. Jefferson stressed that the Commission should continue to follow the Human Rights Ordinance.

Ruth Fliegel addressed the Commission on diversity at the City of Urbana. Ms. Fliegel reported that the City of Champaign has been actively working on this issue for at least 10 years and has made some changes that have increased applicant pools and increased passing scores on tests.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Black History Month

Cope Cumpston reported that she had hoped to put together an event for Black History Month at the high school, however, there are a number of student activities going on and the students are busy.

Lester Pritchard suggested contacting the school in September about an event for next February.

B. Annual Report

Lester Pritchard reported that it is time to begin the Annual Report. He asked for volunteers. Turk Peacock volunteered to work on the report with Lester.

C. Vendors over \$10,000

Vacellia Clark indicated that she had previously sent out a list to the commissioners. She would like for commissioners to indicate to her which vendors they would like to see EEO information on.

There was a discussion on what information is contained in the EEO report. Lester Pritchard asked specifically to see Champaign Telephone's EEO information.

Ms. Clark asked for commissioners to email her which vendors they would like to see. Marion Knight asked to for a vendor sample of sole source.

C. Black Women's Achievement Dinner

Vacellia Clark reported that the Black Women's Achievement Dinner is February 21st and tickets are still available.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. City Hiring Update for 2002

Cope Cumpston commented that the biggest question asked of the Commission last month by Bruce Walden and Mona Shannon, was how to improve the City's image on diversity hiring.

Marion Knight initiated a discussion regarding whether a letter should be sent to the CAO expressing a concern with recruitment and hiring.

A discussion followed.

Chair Knight asked for 2 volunteers to come up with suggestions that the Commission can forward to the City on changing the public image on hiring. Turk Peacock and Cope Cumpston volunteered.

Cope Cumpston asked Chair Knight if someone could be appointed to follow up on what the status of the City Attorney position is. Chair Knight directed Ivon Ridgeway to contact the Personnel Director to investigate the advertising and marketing that was been done for the City Attorney position.

Vacellia Clark explained to the Commission that a Hiring Committee has been established and the final decision would be made by the Mayor and CAO.

Ralph Langenheim recommended that the hiring committees include a person from the Human Relations Commission.

VII. OFFICER'S REPORT

A. HRO Activity Report

Ms. Clark reported that she has been working to identify funding for a fair housing testing. Bob Grewe of the Grants Management Division has expressed an interest in participating but is still checking to see if funds are available.

Ms. Clark distributed a copy of her monthly report.

B. Budget Report

A copy of the report was distributed to the Commission.

There was a discussion regarding budget cuts currently being planned. Ms. Clark reported that it has been proposed that \$1,000 be cut from the Commission's budget.

There was a discussion about whether or not the Commission would like to place an ad for the Women's Black Achievement Dinner. A motion was made by Cope Cumpston to place a full-page ad and purchase one scholarship ticket. Motion seconded by Lester Pritchard. All vote aye. Motion approved. This item will be taken from the Commission's Community Education line item.

The Commission discussed a request by the Boys & Girl's Club to sponsor a table for a fund-raising event. Ralph Langenheim made a motion to give a \$100 donation. Motion seconded by Ivon Ridgeway.

After further discussion, Lester Pritchard suggesting putting guidelines on donations or sponsorships and developing a policy on what types of organizations to support.

A vote was taken as follows on the motion to give \$100 to Don Moyer Boys and Girls Club:

Reisman	No	Langenheim	Yes
Peacock	Yes	Knight	No
Pritchard	No	Ridgeway	Yes
Cumpston	Absent		

The motion failed.

A motion was made to extend the meeting beyond 7:00 p.m. Motion seconded. All voted aye. The meeting was extended beyond 7:00 p.m.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ivon Ridgeway announced that the Boys and Girls Club would be having an event on February 22nd to provide dental care and education. The event will be held at the Park Street location in Champaign.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jolinda Ross
Recording Secretary