

**URBANA HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
MINUTES
December 10, 2003**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Peter Resnick, Cope Cumpston, Marion Knight, Lester Pritchard, Ivon Ridgeway, Lisa Mosley, Alex Cater, Student Representative

OTHERS PRESENT: Ruth Fliegel

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 5:37 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Cope Cumpston and seconded by Lisa Mosley to approve the agenda. All voted aye. The agenda was approved as prepared.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of November 12, 2003 were reviewed. A motion was made by Peter Resnick and seconded by Ivon Ridgeway to approve the minutes. All voted aye. The minutes of the meeting of November 12, 2003 were approved as distributed.

Cope Cumpston noted for the commissioners that the agendas and minutes of the commission meetings are available on the city's web site.

IV. PUBLIC INPUT

Ruth Fliegel indicated to the commission that she was happy to see a letter from Commissioner Cumpston in the News-Gazette regarding Chief Illini and how it impacts the University.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Peter Resnick indicated that during the Retreat there was a discussion of a survey being done. He has since contacted the University Research Lab and has obtained a contact that would be willing to appear before the Commission to talk about what services they could provide. There was a discussion of having some ideas or questions ready before hand. It was decided that Mr. Resnick would take the lead in inviting Jane Burris from the University Research Lab to the January commission meeting.

Cope Cumpston distributed a handout to the commissioners showing them what is available on the webpage. She indicated that she would like to come up some suggestions for the web page. Peter Resnick volunteered to work with her on this. Any commissioner who has any comments and/or suggestions should get them to Cope or Peter.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Review Martin Luther King Jr. Awards Nominations

Marion Knight reviewed the nominations received for the MLK Awards. Ballots were distributed to the commissioners and tallied. It was unanimous to award both nominees with an award. Vacellia Clark will notify the recipients.

B. Spring Calendar

Cope Cumpston indicated that she asked for this item to be put on the agenda because she realized that it's getting close to Black History Month and now would be a good time to get started on something.

Alex Cater indicated that the University is doing something the entire month for Brown vs. Board of Education. Cope Cumpston asked that Alex check the Brown v. Board of Education website and see if there is something of interest that the commission might participate in. Ms. Cumpston also suggested collaborating with the High School. Mr. Cater indicated that he would check with administration at the High School. Commissioner Ridgeway indicated that he would get with Alex to explore the possibility of an assembly for Black History Month.

VII. OFFICER'S REPORT

A. HRO Activity Report

Due to Ms. Clark's illness, there was no Officer's Report.

B. Budget Report

The Commission reviewed the budget report.

VIII. STUDENT REPORT

Alex Cater reported that regarding the new Administrative Rules he spoke about at the last meeting, things are getting better. He did indicate that there has been a problem with violence between different ethnic groups, concerning assaults, test scores, Chief Illini.

Cope Cumpston indicated that she would encourage students who have issues with Chief Illini to pass their concerns along to the U of I Board of Trustees.

Mr. Cater indicated that Amnesty Group has a link to the U of I to address these issues.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chair Knight adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jolinda Ross
Recording Secretary