

**URBANA HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
MINUTES
January 14, 2004**

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Ruth Fliegel, Amy Kummerow, Ruth Wyman, Esther Patt, Jane Burris

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. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of December 10, 2003 were reviewed. A motion was made by Carl Reisman and seconded by Cope Cumpston to approve the minutes. All voted aye. The minutes of the meeting of December 10, 2003 were approved as distributed.

IV. PUBLIC INPUT

Ruth Fliegel addressed the commission regarding a new law requiring police departments to document the race of the person stopped on all traffic stops. She commended the commission for already addressing this issue previously and having this procedure in place.

Ruth Wyman addressed the commission to provide them information on a benefit change for City employees being proposed by the City Council that would allow certain benefits for Domestic Partners. She distributed a copy of the items being considered by the Council. She indicated that the Council would welcome any feedback that the Commission may have on this issue.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. Create Spring Calendar

Cope Cumpston reported that she has discussed Black History Month with Vacellia Clark. She has also contacted the coordinator of a program being held at

the high school in connection with Black History Month. There was a discussion that perhaps a couple of the commission members could be on hand for the program at the high school and talk about what the Commission's mission is and also hand out information about the commission. Marion Knight cautioned that the Commission needs to make sure that they have permission from administration at the high school before participating. It was agreed that Cope Cumpston, Lisa Mosely and Ivon Ridgeway would work on details for the commission's participating. The event is to be held on February 26th during 7th and 8th periods.

Vacellia Clark indicated that the Commission could underwrite a spot on WILL during Black History Month, she will check into pricing for both television and radio.

B. Jane Burris, University Research Lab

Jane Burris from the University Research Lab spoke to the Commission about the services available through the University Research Lab. They have the ability to various types of surveys; help to set up data collection, etc.

Marion Knight was Ivon Ridgeway and Peter Resnick to get together to identify the first step in deciding whether or not to pursue a survey.

C. City's Web Page

Peter Resnick reported that he and Cope Cumpston met with Bill DeJarnette of the Information Services Department and discussed how the Human Relations Commission's page on the City's web site could be enhanced. Mr. DeJarnette indicated that the commission could provide information to him and would have his staff do a mock up. Peter and Cope will develop a list of items to be added to provide to Mr. DeJarnette. Chair Knight asked that the list come back to the Commission before being provided to Mr. DeJarnette.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VII. OFFICER'S REPORT

Vacellia Clark distributed a flyer for the upcoming MLK Program on Friday, January 16th. She asked for volunteers to help with seating people. She also reported that Chris Foster, the UPTV Coordinator, will be taping the program and will be using an extra camera to capture different angles.

A. HRO Activity Report

- The HRO Activity Report was distributed.
- B. Budget Report

The Commission reviewed the budget report.

Ivon Ridgeway asked about the new law regarding racial profiling. Ms. Clark reported that the Urbana Police Department was already collecting the data required in the new law and just had to modify their collection form in order to comply with what the State is now requiring.

Ms. Clark distributed a handout of 2003 Hiring Activity.

It was noted that the public hearing in the Sprout v. Carle case is now scheduled for May 4th – 7th, 2004.

VIII. STUDENT REPORT

Alex Cater reported that an email survey has gone out petitioning to get rid of Chief Illini.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lisa Mosley reported that February 9th is National African-American Parent Involvement Day. Schools should be sending out information regarding what activities they have planned for the day.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chair Knight adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jolinda Ross
Recording Secretary