

URBANA HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
MINUTES
May 11, 2005

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lisa Mosley Peter Resnick, Rachael Dietkus, Ivon Ridgeway, Daniel Larson, Cope Cumpston, Marion Knight, Alex Cater

STAFF PRESENT: Vacellia Clark

OTHERS PRESENT: Robert Michael Doyle

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Knight called the meeting of the Urbana Human Relations Commission to order at 5:35 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Alex Cater asked if the Student Report could be moved up on the agenda. There being no objection, the agenda was revised to move the Student Report to V. after Approval of the Minutes.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of April 13, 2005 were reviewed. Peter Resnick moved to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Lisa Mosley. All voted aye. The minutes of the meeting of April 13, 2005 were approved as submitted.

IV. STUDENT REPORT

Alex Cater reported that he currently knows of 2 people interested in filling the Student Representative position.

Alex thanked the commission for allowing him to serve for the past two years.

Marion Knight presented a certificate to Alex for his service on the commission. Cope Cumpston congratulated him on his high school record and achievements. Alex reported that he will be attending the University of Michigan

V. PUBLIC INPUT

Robert Michael Doyle appeared before the commission and commented on the city council passing a domestic partner registry. He also distributed a copy of the Prairie Flame to each commissioner.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Community Workshop – Lisa Mosely

Vacellia Clark reported that an invitation to the workshop has been sent to Urbana Businesses. She also gave each commissioner a copy. She reported that an outline has been put together and that Cope Cumpston has offered to help with printing. Ms. Clark indicated that she anticipates that the budget for the workshop will not exceed \$2,500.00.

Marion Knight suggested inviting Champaign HRC Commissioners and Champaign staff.

B. Community Workshop – Cope Cumpston

Cope reported that there is a lot going on at the state level and in the community regarding felony convictions. She indicated that she has agreed to put off a workshop on felony convictions until the fall and will still be focusing on the best speakers for the event.

Vacellia Clark reported that in June at the Champaign City Building, Tracy Parsons will be serving on a state board that will be an open forum taking testimony from people who have been affected by these roadblocks.

There was a discussion about the Second Chance Act and it was suggested that a letter could be sent to legislators opposing this act.

Marion Knight reported that there was a speaker at the IMHRA Conference discussing felons not being able to vote. It was noted that in Illinois they can vote.

There was further discussion about legislation pending that would allow for certain convictions to be expunged.

Cope, Rachael and Ivon will keep the commission updated on the proposed workshop.

C. Update on Ordinance Revisions

Pete Resnick distributed a hand out of a draft to be sent to the Mayor. There was discussion about the proposed ordinance changes. Ms. Clark suggested that Pete Resnick and Marion Knight meet with the Mayor and seek her input on how to present to council.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VIII. OFFICER'S REPORT

A. Officer's Report

Ms. Clark reported that there is still one case pending for public hearing. A letter from Glenn Stanko was provided to the commissioners in their packets.

Ms. Clark reported that there will be 5 individuals interviewed for City Attorney on May 19th and 20th.

B. Budget Report

A copy of the budget report was distributed.

Cope Cumpston asked the Commission to consider the item sent in the packets for the WILL Fundraiser. Cope made a motion to run a full page ad to sponsor \$100.00. Motion seconded by Lisa Mosley. A vote was taken.

Marion Knight	aye	Cope Cumpston – aye
Daniel Larson	aye	Rachael Dietkus – aye
Peter Resnick	aye	Lisa Mosley – aye
Ivon Ridgeway (absent)		

Daniel Larson volunteered to write a letter to Congressman Davis regarding felony convictions.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marion Knight and Cope Cumpston gave a summary of the IMHRA training.

Marion Knight reported that a copy of a letter received was included in the packets for the commissioners thanking them for their service on the Sprout case.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Chair Knight adjourned the meeting at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jolinda Ross
Recording Secretary