



Meeting Minutes & Business Notes

January 7, 2016

The Human Relations Commission (HRC) convened for its regular monthly meeting at 6:09 p.m. on the above date in the Board Room at the Greensboro Cultural Center, with **Chair Zac Engle** presiding.

Commissioner Attendance

Present: Chair: Zac Engle, Vice Chair: Jacqueline King, Margaret Arbuckle, Samuel Hawkins, Jr., Moussa Issifou, Linda Perry-Garnette, David Wils, Freman Murphy

Excused Absences: Lindsay Burkart, Kurt Collins, Chantale Wesley-Lamin, Jean Brown, Michael Picarelli

Absent: n/a

Staff: Dr. Love Crossling, Director; Allen Hunt, Supervisor, Jodie Stanley, Education & Outreach Coordinator

I. Call to Order

Chair Engle called the meeting to order at 6:10pm.

II. Moment of Silent Meditation

Chair Engle called for a moment of silent meditation.

III. Chair's Report

Chair Engle remarked on the New Year, new faces. Chair Engle comments emphasized outreach to City Council and the community by the HRC. He highlighted opportunities that are before the HRC to address issues, such as, social justice in the community. Chair Engle focused on the importance of consistent attendance and participation by commissioners. He highlighted volunteer opportunities at the MLK Breakfast on January 18, 2016.

Commissioner Arbuckle shared details about the Americans Who Speak the Truth (AWST) exhibit at the International Civil Rights Museum and her interest in having a representative from AWST accompanied by a portrait of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the MLK Breakfast.

IV. Committee Reports

- Complaint Review Committee (CRC)
- No report
- Education Committee
- No report
- Employment Committee
- No report
- Human Services Committee
- Commissioner King shared that everything is ready to go for the MLK Breakfast. She thanked everyone on the committee, staff and volunteers that formed the planning team. Commissioner King highlighted the Mental Health Series programming planning and topics; Navigating: Healthcare Systems, Education Systems, Employment & Housing
- Montgomery/Wells Housing Committee
-No report
- International Advisory Committee
- No report
- Native American Committee (NAC)
- Allen Hunt stated that a first meeting was planned, but subsequently cancelled because attendees notified him of family emergencies that conflicted with the meeting date.
- Chair Engle shared that he would like to take steps to create an “IAC” style structure for NAC and requested a draft structure presented by staff in February.

V. Recognition of Visitors and Presentations

Mary Louise Frampton, representing Greensboro Counter Stories Project, spoke before the Commission. She was invited by Commissioner Arbuckle who highlighted her participation in the Greensboro Counter Stories Project and encouraged attendees to consider participation in the trainings offered by the group. Ms. Frampton spoke about the benefit of the trainings available through the Counter Stories group that facilitates restorative conversation to address such issues as cultural bias and racism with the goal to build a Greensboro in which every person feels safe, protected and respected.

VI. Staff Report

Jodie Stanley shared plans to develop:

- HRC News Letter
- New commissioner bios to be shared via social media
- Upcoming Fair Housing Series (facilitated by Department staff)
- Upcoming Mental Health Series (facilitated by the Human Services Committee)

VII. Police Community Review Board (PCRB)

Chair Engle commented on the development of the PCRB and the commitment of the HRC to stakeholders in collaboration with City Agencies.

Allen Hunt per the request of Chair Engle provided an overview of the Enhancement Committee's (City Council) changes to the committee structure and process of review. Hunt detailed changes in the number of appointees from 7 on the CRC to 9 members on the PCRB. Details were given regarding the enhanced training process for the PCRB, which includes trainings on "bias" and external legal training on police-community encounters and a more in-depth exposure to the investigative process and analysis of GPD professional directives.

Commissioner Arbuckle asked about the timeline for submissions to be appointed to the PCRB and requested an overview of timeline for the Professional Standards Division of the Greensboro Police Department to complete an investigation and for the complaint to be reviewed by the CRC/PCRB is requested by a complainant.

Chair Engle requested examples of determination letters and other communications typically sent to complainants be made available to him for review and inspection; including an overview of the civilian complaint review process.

Commissioner King commented on her experiences regarding the GPD Citizen's Police Academy.

Via commissioner present, Chair Engle, acknowledged a request made for HRC members to sit in on the PCRB training. Chair Engle clarified that the training was open to the public for observation and that HRC members are welcome to attend.

VIII. Presentations

Chair Engle recognized the Community Engagement representatives from the Greensboro Police Department, Jenny Caviness and Capt. Tre Davis.

Capt. Davis gave an overview of the GPD investigative process, including a clarification of the role of the Command Staff review structure involved in the GPD's internal review process. Capt. Davis stated that the goal of the Community Engagement Division is to bring the community together and engage on community policing issues and concerns.

Jenny Caviness commented on the community feedback process on a variety of police-community related issues, which included the Complaint Review Committee and its role. Caviness shared that they have received some unexpected feedback, but that the feedback was vital and the partnerships being developed are valuable. Chair Engle asked about future meetings. In response, Caviness indicated that a draft memo is in the works which will outline the next steps and a public meeting schedule for the Community Engagement Division. Caviness stated that their team was entering into "phase II" of data/feedback collection. Commissioner Hawkins asked what does phase II look like. Caviness stated that the Engagement team will need help from the community, the school system and the City to take on the issues collectively by educating people, developing volunteers, capturing contact data, advancing current programs, such as, ride-a-longs, community dialogues and community collaborations.

Chair Engle thanks the Community Engagement representatives for their helpfulness and work in the community.

IX. Review of Meeting Minutes

Motion:

“Move to approve December Minutes with corrections.”

Moved by: Commissioner Wils

Seconded by: Commissioner Hawkins

The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

X. Other Business

Commissioner King commented on being a member of the Fire Chief Selection Committee. No other business was presented by the members.

XI. Adjournment

Motion:

“Move to adjourn.”

Moved by: Commissioner King

Seconded by: Commissioner Wils

The motion was unanimously approved by the Commission.

Dr. Love Crossling briefly shared her appreciation for the work of the Commission and encouraged their progress in the community addressing strategic issues.

End of report.

Minutes Approved by:

S/ _____

Chairperson

Greensboro Human Relations Commission

_____/_____/_____

Date