Berea Human Rights Commission

Regular Meeting

Nov 05, 2018, 6:30 PM

CITY HALL, COMMUNITY ROOM  
212 CHESTNUT ST, BEREA, KY 40403.

Present: Mim Pride (Chair), Peter Hille (Recorder), Randy Dinsmore, Rev. Carla Gilbert and Gene Stinchcomb

Absent: Eef Fontanez (Treasurer) and Janice Blythe (Secretary)

Eric Hogsten (Administrative Assistant)

Guests:

* Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by the Chair.
* The agenda was approved as distributed with the addition of a report on contact with CBS to Old Business and deletion of approval of minutes due to absence of the Secretary. The motion was moved by Peter Hille and seconded by Rev. Carla Gilbert.
* Announcements
  + The attorneys have completed the review of the ethics complaint and did not find grounds to move the complaint forward.
* Treasurer’s report for September/October
* Eric Hogsten gave the report. The appropriation for the Leadership Experience has not been processed. Hogsten will follow up and report on the status.

**New Business**

* Debrief Community Forum for Hiring the Disabled Month
  + That was a phenomenal presentation. The speaker, Katie Whaley, was very well versed and articulate. Attendance was disappointing in that no members of the business community were present. The City celebration of Halloween was moved back one day and into conflict with our event. Commissioners discussed strategies for involving more groups in the community: Ask the Chamber of Commerce to host a presentation by Whaley as a training or the focus for a Chamber meeting; train member of the Commission to use Whaley resources to make presentations to larger businesses; connect with employment agencies that work successfully with the disabled; provide list of resources to businesses; consult with Eef about connecting businesses with the transition resources available at the Community School. Stinchcomb will talk to new Mayor about educating City officials.
* Commissioners’ Terms
  + Mayor has reappointed Dinsmore and Hille. There are no term limits but Gilbert reaffirmed her desire to step down. Commissioners will follow up with possible candidates and report to Mayer.
* Old Business

Office Report:

* + Nothing of note. Hogsten will be out Thursday and might be out on the 16th and 30th. He advised that he will be ordering office supplies consistent with previous action by the Commission. With regard to the ethics complaint: Hogsten learned that the complaint is received and reviewed by the Ethics Committee to determine if the complaint has merit. parties to the complaint are involved only if the Ethics Committee determine that there is merit to the complaint.
* CBS Update – Peter Hille
  + The rights to the news clips used in the video we produced do not belong to CBS. They belong to Wazee Digital. The minimum cost for limited use is likely $1500. Hille will explore options for using the material and cost of each. Commissioners would be interested in purchasing some rights for educational use only IF there is money left in the budget at the end of the year.
* Inappropriate Post Update
  + That is an example of lack of respect for women which is a concern of the Commission best addressed through educational programming.
* Additional discussion items
  + Focus on going forward. Human Rights in unity, the community.
  + New York Times KY not approving voting rights for former felons. 1 in 3 black males are not allowed to vote. If we can move something, we will, but we do not have someone to support it on the council. Mayor referred to us as the civil rights commission. Weekend Sponsors, of interracial stuff. A unity event will be a valuable thing to do. Have some good ideas, we just need to commit ourselves to something.
  + Something for all the information from the research on 1968. What do we do with the information from there?
  + Discussing about what to put on agenda. Pride asked Commissioners to think about issues and programs to be pursued in the coming year. Discussion followed:

\*More training on hiring the disabled with focus on educating the business community

\*Explore needs of women in the community

\*URLTA

\*Voting rights for felons. One third of all men in KY have lost their right to vote.

\*LGBTQIA rights

\*Celebrate MLK Birthday with Berea College, City of Berea and/or Richmond HRC (might include marching with our banner in parade(s), attendance at Richmond HRC Unity Breakfast)

\*Rev. Carla Gilbert is working on a dialog among pastors

\*Partner with St. Claire’s and Berea College to reach out to Spanish speaking population

\*Follow up with Dr. Alicestyne Turley regarding additional uses of the material she and her students have collected. Pride to arrange meeting with Turley.

\*Honor Turley and her team. If she is retiring, assist with honoring her and Professor Andrew Baskin.

Public Comment

None.

7:56 P.M. MOTION MOVED and CARRIED to ADJOURN.

Prepared By:

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[Eric Hogsten, AA]

Administrative Assistant

Minutes Recorded: November 05, 2018

Minutes Approved:

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[Mim Pride, Chair]

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