

CITY OF TERRE HAUTE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Minutes: January 17, 2024

Present: AT Ryan, Director; Sandy Mutchler, Chair; Commissioners: Dana Simons, Nichelle Campbell-Miller, and Uzziah Hutchinson; Non-voting Members: Katie Lugar and Justin Sears.

Absent: Mike Reed, Emmitt Tyler, and Jeff Trotter.

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Chair Sandy Mutchler.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the December minutes was made by Sandy Mutchler. The motion was carried.

Director's Report

Director Ryan met with new commissioners, many community leaders, and city officials. A meeting with Irum Malik from the Harvard Transition team also took place.

Nine events/meetings were attended by Director Ryan. Meetings she attended were: city council, Vigo County School Corporation, January Homeless Coalition, Terre Haute Ten, and Terre Haute Metropolitan Planning. Director Ryan also attended the MLK Event with the Children's Museum, MLK Event at the Boys and Girls Club, and the MLK Panel at the Vigo County Historical Museum.

There were a total of six inquiries with the Human Relations office. Four pertained to housing, and two involved employment.

Commissioners received a copy of the directors report which included the financial report. The office expenses included public notices (\$7.82), supplies for the MLK Day program at the Boy and Girls club (\$311.86), and refreshments for the MLK Panel (\$132.67).

Motion to approve the combined Director's Report and Financial Report was made by Nichelle Campbell-Miller and seconded by Dana Simon.

Old Business

Title VI Plan - All members were given a copy of the Title VI Plan. The Human Relations office is responsible for the creation of a plan and the accountability to uphold that plan. The population by race was not correct, so it will be updated. The data in this plan is pulled from the US census, so it probably doesn't include students.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Programming Recap - An official report was presented to all members. On January 13 and 15 the Human Relations Commission partnered with the Terre Haute Children's Museum, and 60 individuals participated. On January 15, the Commission

hosted activities for members of the Boys and Girls Club. Five students and twelve ISU Students participated. On the evening of January 15, the Commission partnered with the Greater Terre Haute NAACP and the Vigo County History Museum to host a panel discussion in honor of Dr. King. 77 individuals attended the event. There were multiple press stories about these events.

2024 Meeting Dates - Commissioners received a copy of the 2024 meeting dates.

Motion to approve the 2024 meeting dates was made by Dana Simons and seconded by Sandy Mutchler.

New Business

Strategic Plan - Director Ryan presented all commissioners with a Strategic Planning Proposal. The director mentioned the commission has struggled with community awareness, working towards measurable goals, and prioritizing community needs. So, a Strategic plan is necessary to move the commission in a strong direction. A planning team would need to consist of 3-4 commissioners and Director Ryan. Katie, Nichelle, Sandy, Dana, and Uzziah all volunteered to assist.

Motion to approve the Strategic Plan Proposal was made by Dana Simons and seconded by Nichelle Campbell-Miller.

Listening Session Collaboration - The Terre Haute 10 requested collaboration for a community listening session. The listening session will gather community input and suggestions on how to tackle issues such as: education, housing issues, employment, and the criminal justice system.

Motion to accept the Terre Haute's Ten request was made by Dana Simons and seconded by Uzziah Hutchinson. Nichelle Campbell-Miller abstained due to conflict of interest.

Black History Month -The commission agreed Director Ryan would overlook a spotlight on the stories of Black Americans who have been trailblazers and change-makers in Terre Haute. Posts will be made on the city's social media platforms.

Statements from Commissioners

Nichelle Campbell-Miller invited the commissioners and director to a "Black Woman in Leadership" panel at ISU on Thursday February 8. She also invited us to a production of "The North Star" presented by Sarah Scott students.

Sandy Mutchler discussed the Commission decorating a table at Illiana Tablescapes. This fundraiser takes place March 15-16 with daily viewings.

Motion to accept the invitation to decorate a table at Tablesapes was made by Dana Simons and seconded by Nichelle Campbell-Miller.

Katie Lugar informed the commision that Terre Haute Pride Fest would take place September 21 from 3 pm to 8 pm at ISU.

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm.

Minutes submitted by Uzziah Hutchinson, Secretary