



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION AGENDA
October 27, 2016 at 3 p.m.
City Hall, 222 Meigs Street

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Jennifer Washington - Chairperson, Dora Grant – Vice Chairperson,
Charlene Adams, Dannie Edmon, Joe Hayberger, Ted Huston,
Dan Leavell, Beverly Newell-Hancock, Dominic Wells

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

August 25, 2016

CURRENT BUSINESS

Talon Flohr, Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator

OLD BUSINESS

Letter to Legislators RE Incarcerated Mentally Ill persons

Public Forums for CY2017

NEW BUSINESS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget Committee - *D. Edmon, D. Leavell & T. Huston*
Public Forum Committee - *J. Hayberger, D. Grant & D. Wells*
Community Organization Planning Committee - *J. Washington,*
B. Newell-Hancock & C. Adams

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING

December 22, 2016 at 3 p.m.

Chairperson Jennifer Washington called the meeting to order at 3 p.m.

The following members were present: Dominic Wells, Joe Hayberger, Dora Grant, Dan Leavell and Jennifer Washington.

Also in attendance: Charlene Adams (3:12 p.m.), Beverly Hancock-Newell (3:10 p.m.) and Ted Huston (3:25 p.m.).

Absent: Dannie Edmon.

STAFF PRESENT: Naomi Twine - Commission Liaison, Kelly Kresser – Clerk, Talon Flohr – Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator, Kelly Kresser - Clerk and Jerry Garrett - Consultant.

CURRENT BUSINESS

Upon motion of Dan Leavell and second of Joe Hayberger, the members voted to approve the Minutes of the June 23 meeting and dispense with the formal reading. The Chairperson declared the motion passed.

CURRENT BUSINESS

Talon Flohr, Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator, said the city is working in partnership with Kent State University to put together plans for each of the designated neighborhoods (to be determined) as well as with representatives from Bowling Green State University. A draft plan of the neighborhoods will be formalized at a City Commission meeting in September. The Housing programs are moving along and the city is getting monies out the door to residents. Talon will be speaking at the First Congregational United Church of Christ next month about what he does for the city and the programs the city has implemented. Jerry Garrett said he is also speaking at this church although not on behalf of the City or the HRC. Jennifer Washington asked Talon Flohr if he had spoken to anyone at St. Faustina Monastery after a recent report in the Sandusky Register. Talon Flohr said he recently reached out to Father Taylor at St. Faustina Monastery, 805 Wayne Street, and said they are doing good things. The home adjacent to the monastery houses employees.

OLD BUSINESS

Dan Leavell said he mentioned writing a letter to City, County and State officials at a recent HRC meeting regarding incarceration of mentally ill persons. This letter would be to let these officials know about the lack of facilities and training for dealing with these persons by law enforcement officers. Jennifer Washington said she thought this was a good idea and asked if the members of the HRC and the City Commission should write a letter jointly to state officials. Dan Leavell said these persons have been mistaken as criminals and shot. Joe Hayberger said he thought the letter should come only from the HRC and to include State Representative Arndt as a recipient. Jerry Garrett said he will draft this letter, get feedback and bring it to the September meeting of the HRC.

NEW BUSINESS

Joe Hayberger said he recently saw a piece on the news about a “National Night Out” event and with the success of Sandusky’s Touch A Truck event, thought it might be a good idea to do such an event to help develop relationships with law enforcement personnel. Kelly Kresser stated The Touch A Truck event is already affiliated with National Night Out and the event is entitled “National Night Out/Touch A Truck”.

Dora Grant said she and Charlene Adams with the Center for Cultural Awareness hosted the Conestoga South Side Appreciation Day on August 20 with assistance from members of the Sandusky Police and Fire Departments, and other city employees. Joe Hayberger suggested capturing these kinds of events on video in the future to help promote Sandusky.

Jennifer Washington said with the change of meeting times to 3 p.m., Dannie Edmon is unable to attend because of work conflicts and asked to revisit the meeting time(s). Dominic wells said he is flexible and can attend at any time; Joe Hayberger said 3 p.m. is better for him; Ted Huston said 3 p.m. works for his schedule; Dora Grant said 3 p.m. works for her schedule; Dan Leavell said 4 p.m. would work better for him; Charlene Adams said 3 p.m. works for her schedule and Beverly Hancock-Newell said either time would work for her. Jennifer Washington said the HRC will stay scheduled at 3 p.m. and she would speak to Dannie Edmon about his ability to continue serving, or not.

Budget Committee

No report.

Public Forum Committee

No report.

Community Organization Planning Committee

Jennifer Washington said she, Charlene Adams and Beverly Hancock-Newell were unhappy with Balin & Associates presenting to the HRC and proposed hiring Dr. Karen Patterson-Stewart for this purpose after she was recommended by Dr. Eugene Sanders, SCS Superintendent. Dr. Patterson-Stewart has taught classes for the Sandusky Board of Education. Jennifer Washington distributed a copy of Dr. Patterson-Stewart’s resume and said after speaking with her, she is willing to provide training after January, 2017, for the same cost as Balin & Associates. Her expenses would include airfare, accommodations and travel and staying over one night in Sandusky. Jennifer Washington said she would hope a training room, overnight accommodations and food and beverages for attendees could be provided at no charge by a local organization(s). Jennifer Washington said she had some questions regarding the money which was budgeted for this purpose and how it would work if we accepted donations at the door, or if we should consider not charging at all. These questions were put into writing (via email) and answered by the Law Department. Kelly Kresser said she too received these questions from Jennifer Washington and responded to them via email. Jerry Garrett said he

was not here to be appointed to serve on any committee and noted in May, 2016, the HRC voted to proceed to hire Balin & Associates to provide training for Anatomy of Diversity and Anatomy of Prejudice. Naomi Twine said this is new territory for her and this is the first time she has heard of doing this differently. Naomi Twine noted she will have to check with the Law Department about this. Jennifer Washington said the members of the HRC should have been given a choice or options for training but were not, they were only given one (option). Charlene Adams said attorneys require Continuing Legal Education (CLE) hours and certain social workers require Continuing Education Units (CEU) and this certification could be provided for these credit hours if Dr. Patterson-Stewart were to provide it. The Ohio Chemical Dependency Board requires an annual fee to provide and participate in these types of workshops and registration must occur 60 days prior to the training so it is a time sensitive process. This would add to the credibility of the sessions. Dan Levell said he is confused because the members of the HRC voted to utilize the services of Balin & Associates at a previous meeting and this is introducing an entirely different program to serve the same purpose. Dan Leavell asked why another individual was solicited. Beverly Hancock-Newell said Dr. Patterson-Stewart is more qualified and a fee of \$1,500 for a limit of 20 persons is ridiculous; this would be more beneficial to more members of the community. Beverly Hancock-Newell said as a member of the HRC's Community Organization Committee, she and others questioned Balin & Associates as all she could learn about Marcella Balin from the internet is she is a nurse and sells Mary Kay cosmetics. Jerry Garrett said he was not consulted about this and stated Balin & Associates is qualified to offer CLE's and could include lawyers, social workers and abuse prevention counselors for training purposes. Further, Balin & Associates has agreed to charge \$1,500 plus the costs for airfare and hotel so the costs are equal. Jerry Garrett said he is not opposed to either offering training, but members had the same opportunity to contact Balin & Associates as they did to contact and get information about Dr. Patterson-Stewart. Naomi Twine said there are many variables to this proposal and final decisions need to be approved by the Law Department. Joe Hayberger said it would be a good idea to see each of these persons outlined with comparisons and costs to fully assess which one to use. Ted Huston said although he understands Dr. Patterson-Stewart is well qualified to provide training, the HRC voted to utilize Balin & Associates and this motion must be reconsidered in order to change.

Upon motion of Beverly Hancock-Newell and second of Charlene Adams, the members voted to rescind their approval of Balin & Associates and substitute with a motion to compare both Balin & Associates and Dr. Patterson-Stewart, along with the accompanying costs, by the Community Organization Planning Committee for consideration at the September HRC meeting. Roll call on the motion: Yeas: Dominic Wells, Joe Hayberger, Dora Grant, Jennifer Washington, Dan Leavell, Charlene Adams and Beverly Hancock-Newell, 7. Abstain: Ted Huston, 1. The Chairperson declared the motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dan Leavell suggested considering the topic of **Police Community Relationships** for the future. Dominic Wells said he understands Balin & Associates was to offer diversity awareness and

sensitivity training. Jerry Garrett said Greater Faith Church, 1124 Cleveland Road, is hosting a workshop on August 27 from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. regarding **police community relationships and the national issues America is facing.**

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Dominic Wells and second of Joe Hayberger, the members voted to adjourn at 4:20 p.m. The Chairperson declared the motion passed.

Attest: McKenzie Spriggs, Acting Clerk
Date: ____/____/____

Jennifer Washington, Chairperson
Date: ____/____/____