



**DURHAM HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION  
SEPTEMBER 2016 MEETING**

Neighborhood Improvement Services Department Conference Room  
Golden Belt Center, Building 2, Floor 3  
807 E. Main St, Durham, NC 27701  
Date: Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Time: 7:00 PM

**MEETING MINUTES**

*Members of Commission: Commissioners Phil Seib, Chair; Ashley Taylor-Jacobs, Vice Chair; Ricky Hart; Gerri Robinson; Richard Ford; Girija Mahajan; Susan Austin; Ian Kipp; Risa Foster; Sejal Zota; Diane Standaert; Franklin Hanes; Yolanda Keith; Ricardo Correa; Felicia Arriaga; Mikel Barton; Council Persons Dan Moffitt, City Council Liaison; Jillian Johnson, Alternate City Council Liaison*

**Call To Order**

Commissioner Phil Seib, Commission Chair

**Roll Call**

Commissioner Ashley Taylor-Jacobs

**Commissioners Present:**

Phil Seib, Ashley Taylor-Jacobs, Felicia Arriaga, Franklin Hanes, Girija Mahajan, Ian Kipp, Richard Ford, Ricky Hart, Risa Foster, Sejal Zota, Susan Austin, Yolanda Keith, Mikel Barton

**Commissioners Absent:**

Diane Standaert, Gerri Robinson, Ricardo Correa

**City Department Staff Present:**

James Davis, Human Relations Manager; Larry Revelle, Human Relations Specialist

**Ceremonial Items**

Commission Chair Phil Seib shared that Norris Wicker passed away yesterday (September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016) at 11am. Moment of silence, Commissioners and staff shared memories.

Commission Chair Phil Seib welcomed new Commission Member Mikel Barton.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Risa Foster made a motion to approve the August 2016 DHRC Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Ford seconded the motion, the motion was approved with thirteen votes (13) “For” the motion, zero (0) votes “Against” the motion, and two (2) votes “Abstained” the motion.

## **Presentations**

DJ Kraze and Wes Rook Jr spoke to the Commission about “Community, Cops, Coffee and Conversation.” DJ Kraze started “Community Conversation” at his Ideas Coffee House when it opened in 2002. The focus shifted to “Community, Cops, Coffee, and Conversation” due to tensions between the police and the community. The purpose of “Community, Cops, Coffee, and Conversation” is to get the community to know the police officers that are patrolling their district and to get the police officers to know the people in the community that they are policing. The first conversation was in District 4. The next conversation will be in District 3 on Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at the Omega Community Center. Other community events planned include a kickball game between the community and the cops and a cookout with the cops. A website has been created for the organization. The new website is loveoverhatenc.com. A “Karaoke with the Cops” program will be starting soon.

## **Executive Committee Report**

Ashley Taylor-Jacobs, Vice Chair

An Executive Committee meeting was held for all Committee Chairs at 6:30 PM. Creation and content development of DHRC social media outlets was discussed.

## **Committee & Special Project Reports**

Committee Chairs

### **Community Outreach Committee**

Commissioner Ricky Hart

Phil Seib states that Ricky Hart reported in the Executive Committee meeting that he has been establishing relationships with local clergy and nonprofits.

### **Human Relations Hearing Committee for Housing Appeals**

Commissioner Gerri Robinson

Nothing to report.

### **Policies & Procedures Committee**

Commissioner Susan Austin

The proposed amendment related to submitting items for the agenda and passing resolutions is being reviewed.

### **Special Events Committee**

Commissioner Ashley Taylor-Jacobs

Special Events Committee is in negotiations regarding Diane Standaert and Yolanda Keith co-chairing the committee.

### **Website/Marketing Committee**

Commissioner Richard Ford

Nothing to report.

## **Human Relations Manager’s Report**

James Davis, Human Relations Manager

### **Human Relations Manager’s Report for August 2016**

James Davis encouraged the Commissioners to attend the Racial Equity Training on tentative dates of Friday November 4<sup>th</sup> and Saturday November 5<sup>th</sup>. We will need at least 10 attendees. The Fair Housing: Inclusion Works Symposium is scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup> at The Forest at Duke.

### **Human Relations Communications/Announcements**

James Davis, Human Relations Manager

James Davis shared a spreadsheet with outreach events scheduled for September 2016.

**Old Business**

**Public Forum on Conditions in Durham County Jail**

Public Forum Committee

The letters from the jail have been received and will be reviewed for Q&A. Yolanda Keith to moderate and 4 panelists are confirmed. The Forum will be at City Hall on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Headphones and an interpreter will be provided. Mass emails have been sent.

**New Business**

DHRC September 2016 Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, September 6, 2016

**Durham Human Relations Commission (DHRC) Long-Range Calendar**

DHRC October 2016 Executive Committee Meeting Scheduled for Tuesday, October 4, 2016 at 6:30 PM

DHRC October 2016 Commission Meeting Scheduled for Tuesday, October 4, 2016 at 7:00 PM

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Phil Seib, Commission Chair, adjourned the meeting.