



**DURHAM HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
JANUARY 2016 MEETING
Neighborhood Improvement Services Department Conference Room
Golden Belt Center, Building 2, Floor 3
807 East Main Street, Durham, NC 27701
Date: Tuesday, January 5, 2016
Time: 7:00 PM**

MEETING MINUTES

*Members of Commission: Commissioners Phil Seib, Chair, Norris Wicker, Vice Chair, Ricky Hart, Gerri Robinson, Richard Ford, Jacob Kliatchko, Ashley Taylor, Girija Mahajan, Susan Austin, Ian Kipp, Risa Foster, Sejal Zota, Diane Standaert, Franklin Hanes
Council Persons Don Moffitt, City Council Liaison, Jillian Johnson, Alternate City Council Liaison*

Call To Order

Commissioner Phil Seib, Commission Chair, called the meeting at 7:01 PM.

Roll Call

Juanita English, Administrative Assistant called the roll for the meeting.

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Phil Seib, Norris Wicker, Gerri Robinson, Richard Ford, Ashley Taylor, Girija Mahajan, Susan Austin, Ian Kipp, Risa Foster, Sejal Zota, Diane Standaert, Franklin Hanes

Commissioners Absent–Excused: Commissioners Ricky Hart, Jacob Kliatchko

Commissioners Absent–Unexcused: None

City Council Liaison Present: City Council Persons Don Moffitt, Jillian Johnson

City Department Staff Present: Delilah Donaldson, Senior Human Relations Manager, Juanita English, Admin Assistant

Orders of the Day

1. Ceremonial Items

None

2. Public Comments

None

3. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Gerri Robinson made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of the December 2015 DHRC meeting held on Tuesday, December 8, 2015; Commissioner Norris Wicker seconded the motion; the motion was approved with 10 votes “For” and 1 “Abstention” made by Commissioner Ian Kipp.

4. Presentations

None

5. Executive Committee Report

Commissioner Phil Seib, Commission Chair, conducted an Executive Committee meeting at 6:30 PM, before the full member Commission meeting was held at 7:00 PM.

6. Committee & Special Project Reports

Standing Committees:

Community Outreach Committee:

Commissioner Norris Wicker, Committee Chair, reported to the Commission that there was nothing to report at this time.

Human Relations Hearing Committee for Housing Appeals:

Commissioner Gerri Robinson, Committee Chair, reported to the Commission that there was nothing to report at this time.

Policies & Procedures Committee:

Commissioner Susan Austin, Committee Chair, reported to the Commission that there was nothing to report at this time.

Special Events Committee:

Commissioner Ashley Taylor, Committee Chair, reported to the Commission that there was nothing to report at this time.

Commissioner Gerri Robinson and Commissioner Sejal Zota joined the Special Events Committee.

Website/Marketing Committee:

Commissioner Richard Ford, Committee Chair, reported to the Commission that he would post any activities on Facebook that Commission members are involved in if they will notify him of the activities.

Ad Hoc Committees:

Commission Composition Committee:

Commissioner Sejal Zota, Committee Chair, reported to the Commission that the Commission Composition Ordinance was passed by City Council.

Water Management Dept. Discrimination Complaints Committee:

Commissioner Susan Austin, Committee Chair, reported to the Commission that the response statements to the City Council's questions regarding the Water Management Department recommendations were prepared by the committee and sent to the City staff liaison.

7. Commissioner Communications and Announcements

NIS Department staff member, Juanita English, Administrative Assistant, reported to the Commission an update on the scheduling of GoTriangle and SpiritHouse to make presentations at the February Commission meeting about the Bull City Connector route change.

The Commission decided to promote the two Bull City Connector presentations scheduled for the February Commission meeting on the Commission website and Facebook to encourage the public to attend the February Commission meeting to hear the two presentations.

Commissioner Diane Standaert informed the Commission that there are two public feedback opportunities coming up. The first opportunity is feedback on the body camera policy due by January 14, 2016. The second opportunity is the police chief search survey available in English and Spanish.

Commissioner Gerri Robinson reminded the Commission that Commission members that were reappointed on June 30, 2015 have until January 8, 2016 to be sworn in.

8. Human Relations Manager's Report

NIS Department staff member, Delilah Donaldson, Senior Human Relations Manager, provided the Commission with the Human Relations Manager's Report for December 2015.

NIS Department staff member, Delilah Donaldson, Senior Human Relations Manager, provided the Commission with the HUD Fair Housing Case Report for December 2015.

8.01 Human Relations Communications/Announcements

NIS Department staff member, Delilah Donaldson, Senior Human Relations Manager, provided the Commission with the Human Relations Division Calendar for January 2016.

9. Old Business

City of Durham Human Relations Survey & Development of Priority Subjects for 2016:

Commissioner Phil Seib, Commission Chair, reported to the Commission that he would send emails to the Commission about these two old business items.

Commissioner's Statement in Support of Muslims:

Commissioner Phil Seib, Commission Chair, informed the Commission that the statement that the Commission made in support of Muslims had a positive effect, and it sparked other organizations to make similar statements.

10. New Business

Interfaith Community Dialogue Forum:

The Commission decided that the Special Events Committee would plan the Interfaith Community Dialogue Forum. With the new members that joined the Special Events Committee at this meeting, the Special Events Committee members are as follows:

Commissioner Ashley Taylor, Committee Chair
Commissioner Girija Mahajan
Commissioner Risa Foster
Commissioner Diane Standaert
Commissioner Gerri Robinson
Commissioner Sejal Zota

Commissioner Phil Seib, Commission Chair, asked that the two Commissioners that are ministers, Commissioner Franklin Hanes and Commissioner Norris Wicker, assist with contacting churches for their involvement with the forum.

Commissioner Phil Seib, Commission Chair, asked that Commissioner Sejal Zota be the lead on the Interfaith Community Dialogue Forum project.

Commissioner Phil Seib, Commission Chair, asked that the Interfaith Community Dialogue Forum project members decide on the date and place of the forum and report that information to the Commission at the next meeting.

11. Durham Human Relations Commission (DHRC) Long-Range Calendar

Commissioner Phil Seib, Commission Chair, announced to the Commission that the next meeting of the DHRC Executive Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 6:30 PM.

Commissioner Phil Seib, Commission Chair, announced to the Commission that the next meeting of the DHRC is scheduled for Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment

Commissioner Gerri Robinson made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Norris Wicker seconded the motion, the motion was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Phil Seib, Commission Chair, adjourned the meeting at 8:00 PM.