

**City of Edwardsville
Human Relations Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: January 10, 2022

Location: City Hall, Council Chambers, 118 Hillsboro Avenue, Edwardsville, IL 62025

Members Present:

- Paul Pitts (Chair), Yolanda Crochrell (Vice-Chair), Brian Pezza, Anya Covington, Jean McGurk O'Brien (Secretary), Keith Page, David Boyer, Violet Evans.
- Quorum present

Others Present:

- Amanda Tucker (City Liaison), Emily Love (Troy), John Harvey (Edwardsville), Phyllis Spiller (Godfrey), Christine "Ash" Jenkins (Edwardsville), Breanne Burton (Glen Carbon), Heidi Masching (Glen Carbon).

Called to Order by Paul Pitts at 5:00 p.m.

Moment of Silence called for by Paul Pitts for the citizens who lost their lives during the tornado strike at the Amazon warehouse on December 10th, and in support of their families, and to express appreciation to the First Responders and community members who rallied to give support.

Public Comment:

- Paul Pitts asked for public comment.
 - Emily Love spoke asking the committee to please consider that though the Daddy Daughter Dance purports to be open to all, that the name itself is inherently exclusive.

Approval of Minutes:

- Approval of Minutes for December 6, 2021 moved by Keith Page and 2nd by Violet Evans. Motion passed with none opposed.

Communications:

Paul Pitts reported that he had received a legal opinion (attached) about the Daddy Daughter Dance from Jeff Berkgigler, City Attorney. He asked Amanda Tucker to read the opinion aloud to the HRC. (see attached)

- The HRC discussed aspects, concerns and questions about the Daddy Daughter Dance in particular and broadly any gender themed event held by the City.
- Brian Pezza motioned that "This Committee recommends that the City of Edwardsville adopts a policy of sponsoring only events that are inclusive in name and in practice." Motion 2nd by Jean McGurk O'Brien. Those voting yes: Keith Page, Paul Pitts, David

Boyer, Anya Covington, Yolanda Covington, Brien Pezza, Jean McGurk O'Brien. Those voting Abstain: Violet Evans. None opposed. Motion passed.

Administrative:

- Paul Pitts reported that the housing study RFQ Selection Committee has chosen the i5 Group team. A memo from Emily Calderon, City Planner, was distributed (attached). Emily will be presenting at the next HRC meeting in February.
- Discussed the HRC ordinance. Amanda had received (and shared with the HRC by email) edit suggestions from Brian Pezza, Jean McGurk O'Brien, and a non-discrimination policy resource from Paul Pitts (each attached). The HRC discussed the scope of the HRC's mandate, the request to review the HRC ordinance, and the procedure to use to move forward in developing recommendations. Yolanda Crochrell offered to work on a Complaints Form for the HRC. Paul Pitts asked the committee members to review the ordinance and the suggested edits and to please submit their own edit suggestion to Amanda by Friday, January 21 of this month.


New Business

- Anya Covington shared information about the celebration honoring Martin Luther King, Jr, themed "Growth", at Mt. Joy Church on January 17th.


Next Meeting

- The next regular scheduled meeting of the Human Relations Committee will be Monday, February 7, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by David Boyer and 2nd by Yolanda Crochrell. Motion passed; meeting adjourned by Paul Pitts at 6:10 p.m.


Paul Pitts, Chair

Minutes Prepared by: Jean McGurk O'Brien, Secretary, 1/10/2022

Approved Signature: 

Approved Date: 2/7/2022