

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

Meeting Date: February 7, 2022

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

Members Present:

- Paul Pitts (Chair), Anya Covington, Violet Evans, Karyle Penelton, Keith Page (Zoom), David Boyer, Brian Pezza, Jean McGurk O'Brien (Secretary)
- Quorum present

Others Present:

- Amanda Tucker (City Liaison), Jeffrey Berkbigler (City Attorney), Ezra Temko (Edwardsville), Phyllis Spiller (Godfrey), Christine "Ash" Jenkins (Edwardsville), Michelle Babb (Edwardsville).

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

Attendance Motion:

- Paul Pitts made a motion to accept Keith Page's attendance by Zoom, Brian Pezza seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

Public Comment:

- Paul Pitts asked for public comment. Michelle Babb, President of Faith Coalition, Edwardsville, spoke about the service work of the organization.

Approval of Minutes:

- Approval of Minutes for January 10, 2022 motion by Keith Page and seconded by Violet Evans. Motion passed with none opposed.

Communications:

- Paul Pitts invited committee members to contact him with any issues or concerns.
- Paul Pitts stated that he and David Boyer met with Mayor Art Risavy regarding the HRC's recommendation which was adopted on January 7, 2022. Mayor Risavy's response was read aloud by Amanda Tucker (attached). The recommendation was rejected by Mayor Risavy for being overbroad. Paul Pitts stated that he believes that the committee has done its duty of responding to the question and making a recommendation, and that the matter is now a closed topic. HRC members questioned if there was an option to present a more narrowly focused recommendation, Jeffrey Berkbigler stated that the committee can bring up the topic again as it chooses.

Administrative:

- Emily Fultz gave the committee a Housing Study update. The winning bid was put together by i5group, Bob Lewis, and Community & Economic Solutions. The Housing Study Committee and the winning group are currently figuring out details of scope and budget. They will be collecting data through multiple means, including quantitatively and qualitatively, and will seek out input from public engagement and stake holder discussions as well as data from governmental sources. Once the contract has been settled upon it will be submitted to the ACS and then the City Council for approval.
- Paul Pitts asked the committee to focus on the section of the HRC ordinance which develops procedures to be used in the case of a complaint against a local company or organization, as opposed to complaints against a city employee. Anya Covington identified some the steps which the committee should consider. David Boyer suggested a need to clean up definitions in the ordinance. The committee decided to hold a special meeting on February 28th to have a focused conversation about the ordinance (Chapter 58 Article II).

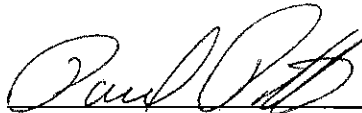
New Business

- None

Next Meeting


- The next meeting will be a special meeting to discuss the HRC ordinance on February 28, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.
- The next regular scheduled meeting of the Human Relations Committee will be Monday, March 7, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by David Boyer and seconded by Violet Evans. Motion passed; meeting adjourned by Paul Pitts at 6:15 p.m.



Paul Pitts, Chair

Minutes Prepared by: Jean McGurk O'Brien, Secretary, 2/17/2022

Approved Signature: 
Approved Date: 