



CITY OF
Bloomington
ILLINOIS

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023, at 4:30 P.M.

- I. Call to Order -Roll Call of Attendance:** Commissioners: **Present:** Olukayode Ajayi, Kiran Konam, Rhonda Smith, Anthony Jones. Uma Kailasam **Absent:** Netia Carey, Vivian Doctora
- II. Public Comment - None**
- Approval of March 2023 Minutes:** Motion to Approve - Ajayi / Second - Jones Jones, Kailasam, Konam, Ajayi, Smith Vote / Yes. Minutes approved.
- III. Agenda Items**
- a. Fireside Chat – Billy Tyus**
Billy Tyus provided a brief introduction of his background and duties. He encouraged members to either listen or attend upcoming City Council meetings and mentioned the library expansion, American Rescue Plan funding, and ADA transition plan being on the agenda. American Rescue Plan grants will open on May 1st. Commissioner Smith asked Michael Hurt to discuss the ADA transition plan. Michael Hurt described that anything available to the public, we need to make it accessible to the public. Community Relations Manager provided details on this year's essay contest. There were 75 submissions and each grade level had three winners each. Prizes will be delivered to the students on 3/10/23. Gregory mentioned meeting with Superintendent Dr. Mouser and networking with teachers to get submissions.
- b. Diversity and Inclusion Survey Update**
Gregory Wilson provided an update on the Diversity and Inclusion Survey. There was a total of 285 responses. The City will use the responses to assist in the development of the diversity and inclusion strategic plan for the City.
- c. BHRC Discrimination Complaints**
Gregory Wilson advised the complaint set forth against a local employer and a charge of discrimination. Commissioner Ajayi asked to hear for our options. Michael Hurt advised to contact Green Recycling and see who should receive the email. We would then send out an email and have a receipt from the email.



IV. Old Business

a. BDP invitation – Pulse of the Community

Gregory Wilson has yet to hear back from the chief. Email sent out on 3/20/2023 & 4/3/2023. Commissioner Smith would like for this to remain on the table.

b. Juneteenth Event Update

Commissioner Jones sent out a listing of tasks to Gregory Wilson. Jones mentioned mimicking the event from last year. The website is now active and volunteers and vendors can now sign up for tables online. The new website is www.bnjuneteenth.org.

V. New Business

a. Your Police and You Presentation

Gregory Wilson mentioned the presentation from Sgt. Nowers that provides community relations between the community and the police. Gregory Wilson mentioned Sgt. Nowers asking if there were any groups that he could speak with and present the presentation. Commissioner Ajayi mentioned needing clarification on slide 9 and rolling the window down. He mentioned no where in the presentation does it mention the citizens right if they are stopped.

b. Other

Gregory Wilson mentioned the MIRA Fair Housing Affair. Commissioner Smith had mentioned if we had any items to hand out. Commissioner Jones mentioned sending out the HRC brochure to Wilson and he will revise if needed and send back.

Moved – Ajayi / Second – Konam. Motion Passed.

VI. Next Scheduled Meeting Date: May 11, 2023

Adjournment: 5:57 pm