

CITY OF TERRE HAUTE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Terre Haute Human Relations Commission

Wednesday, January 15, 2025, Minutes

City Hall, 5:00 PM

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by President Sandy Mulcher at 5:00 PM.

Present: Director, AT Ryan. President, Sandy Mutchler, Commissioners: Dana Simons, Dee Reed, Nichelle Campbell-Miller, Amber Stewart and Jacqueline Lower, Nonvoting Members: Katie Lugar and Justin Sears.

Absent: None.

Re-Organization – President Mulcher opened the floor for nominations for Commission Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary. There were no new names nominated. There was a motion to re-elect the standing officers by Dee Reed, and the motion was seconded by Amber Stewart. The motion passed.

Approval of December Minutes – A motion was made by Dana Simons to accept the December minutes and was seconded by Dee Reed. The motion passed.

Director's Report – Every member received a copy of the Financial Report. Director Ryan attended several events and meetings during the months of December and January. Director Ryan serves as the liaison for the Wabash valley homeless coalition. During the winter storm Blair, Director AT Ryan assisted in getting warming centers open for the homeless population. She also thanked the THPD for helping at the warming centers. The director assisted in looking to give the center additional resources and volunteers. She attended the ribbon cutting for a low barrier shelter for the homeless population. A motion was made by Uzziah Hutchison to accept the director's report and was seconded by Nichelle Campbell-Miller.

Old Business

MLK Day 2025 – All commissioners received a copy of the schedule and an overview for MLK Day 2025. Director Ryan asked the commission for help during the MLK Day event at the VCPL. Commissioners will help welcome participants, help give away books and help at three craft stations: quotes and pictures collage, bookmark station, and coloring station. HISTORY CENTER MLK Day – Director Ryan asked the commission for help setting up the light refreshments and

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greeting participants. **BOOK CLUB** – The commission will host an in-person book club monthly in which members of the community could engage in discussions around how we can apply the teachings of Dr. King to our contemporary climate. Dr. Anne D’Orazio is working on conversations and questions for the book club. The book club will meet on the fourth Thursday of each month.

Black History Month 2025 – All commissioners received a copy of the Black History Month Banner updates and upcoming dates. The committee selected a class of 11 new honorees with one mayor’s choice winner. The original batch of honorees were reprinted, and the old banners were given to the VCPL Archives. There will be an announcement on the winners via press release and social media on January 16. A reception will be held at the History Center on January 28 at 5:30 PM, and installation and dedication ceremony will take place on January 31 at 10 AM. Director Ryan said she is working with the Parks Department to install the banners when Black History Month begins.

Purchase of Promotional Items – The total amount spent was \$2,281. An invoice was sent by Midwest Printing for \$35.70 for promotional paper note pads. This will be covered by the \$2,500 alluded to the promotional items.

New Business

Attendance Policy – All members received a copy of the HRC attendance policy. The policy has been established to ensure active participation and commitment from all members of the HRC and to maintain consistent quorum and functionality during meetings. All commissioners were asked to review the policy. No action was taken.

Virtual Attendance Policy – All members received a copy of the HRC virtual attendance policy for commission meetings. All commissioners were asked to review the policy. No action was taken.

Statements from Commissioners – Katie Lugar – Talked about the current Indiana legislative session and the push to eliminate DEI. She also shared that transgendered women and affirming care is being targeted. LGBTQ+ Legislative Day will take place on January 30th. Sandy Mulcher– Was pleased at how well the first HRC meeting was. She shared that Table Scapes will have junior tables that young people can decorate.

Statements from Audience on items not on the agenda – There were none.

Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 6:22. A motion to adjourn was made by Nichelle Campbell-Miller and seconded by Dana Simons. The motion passed.