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CITY OF TERRE HAUTE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

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Minutes: June 20, 2024

Present: AT Ryan, Director; Sandy Mutchler, Chair; Commissioners: Dana Simons, Nichelle Campbell-Miller, and Uzziah Hutchinson; Non-voting Members: Katie Lugar, Justin Sears

Absent: Emmitt Tyler, and Jeff Trotter.

The meeting was called to order at 5:41 PM by Chair, Sandy Mutchler.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the January minutes was made by Dana Simons and seconded by Uzziah Hutchinson.

Director's Report

All members received a copy of the director's and financial report.

Director AT met with various community members and organizations. Some of the events/meetings included: The League of Women Voters, Meeting with ISU Doctoral Class, Terre Haute Day, City Update, Juneteenth Program, ADA Symposium, and several more.

There were two inquiries with the office, one for housing and the other for court. There are no active cases.

The office expenses included: Big Picture - \$115.00, Public Notice for April - \$11.35, Public Notice for May - \$11.35, Public Notice for June - \$10.88, ADA Symposium - \$1214.49.

A motion to approve the Director's Report and financial report was made by Nichelle Campbell-Miller and seconded by Uzziah Hutchinson.

Old Business

Community Engagement Workshops - Director Ryan gave all commissioners a copy of the Community Report from the 2024 community engagement workshop series. It was decided that all commissioners would review the report. Commissioners will have by the end of day Monday, June 24, 2024 to review the report and report back to Director Ryan.

Strategic Plan - Every commissioner received a physical copy of the HRC Strategic Plan. Director Ryan would like to present the Strategic Plan to the city council sometime in the near

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future. The Human Relations Commission decided to accept the strategic plan by common consent.

HRC Ordinance - The city council approved the proposed changes to the Human Relations Commission Ordinance. Notable changes were: updated definitions, changing outdated language, removal of party affiliation for commission members, attendance requirements for commissioners, update of commission responsibilities, and addition of responsibilities for Executive Directors. After more research, military/veteran status, sexual orientation, and other protected classes will be updated. No action needed.

ADA Coordinator Training and ADA Symposium - Director AT gave every commissioner an outline of her experience at the ADA conference. She attended the session from June 9-12 in Minneapolis, MN. Director Ryan attend the following sessions: Title I Guidelines, Reasonable Accommodations, Accessibility in the Public Right of Way, What is the role of the ADA Coordinator, Benefits of Disability Inclusion, 2010 Standards for Accessible Design, and Pedestrian Trails and Shared Use Paths. All sessions count toward Director Ryan's credit for the ADA Coordinator Certificate Program. No action needed.

ISU Doctoral Class Partnership - A doctoral class for the Department of Education Leadership is serving as our consultants to assist with providing recommendations for a city-wide Kwanzaa, Black History, Juneteenth, and MLK programing efforts for 2024-2025. An initial meeting was held on May 4 with Director AT and Commissioner Nichelle in attendance. The group will have a preliminary product ready for discussion on Friday, June 21. Their final presentations will be on Saturday, August 24 from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM. All commissioners are invited to attend. No action needed.

New Business

2025 Budget - Every commissioner received a copy of the HRC 2025 budget. Director Ryan created our proposed budget for 2025 based on anticipated expenses. There is a significant increase in both salary/benefits for the Director as well as operating costs. Director AT will meet with Mayor Sakbun and the City Controller on Monday, June 24 to review the budget. No action needed.

Pride Fest - Terre Haute Pride Fest will be Saturday, September 21, 2024. The Human Relations Commission will be a Tier 2 Sponsor for the 2024 Pride fest. A motion to accept the Tier 2 Sponsor of \$2,500 was made by Dana Simons and seconded by Sandy Mutchler.

Candles Museum Dinner - The Candles Museum Dinner will be Saturday, September 28, 2024 at the children's museum of Indianapolis. The HRC was asked to be a sponsor for their dinner.

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The commission recognizes the Candles Museum as a human rights organization. It was decided that the HRC would support the Candles Museum in a different way.

Indiana Consortium Dues - Established in 1972, the Indiana Consortium of the State and Local Human Rights Agencies, is an organization of civil and human rights enforcement agencies from across Indiana. They are asking us to be a member and pay our dues. The annual dues are \$100. It was approved by common consent that the Human Relations Commission would pay the invoice of \$100.

Juneteenth Discussion - On June 16, an individual vandalized a mural created in honor of Juneteenth. The community and members of the Human Relation Commission were upset about the vandalism. Director Ryan emphasized her disheartenment, and asked the commissioners what we could do as an organization to stand against this type of hate. Commissioner Campbell-Miller suggested the HRC make a statement in condoning the vandalism. It was decided to make a social media post and also publish the response in the newspaper. It was also suggested that the HRC works with representatives to push for a hate crime bill at the state level. Director Ryan will draft a statement on Friday, June 21 and email a copy to the commissioners. Director Ryan would like the commissioners to review the draft by the end of the weekend and report back to her.

Statements from Commissioners -

The meeting was adjourned at 6:47 PM.

Minutes submitted by Uzziah Hutchinson, Secretary.