

CITY OF FAIRMONT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Minutes of:

Regular Meeting

February 26, 2020 – 5:30p.m.

The duly called and noticed work session of the City of Fairmont Human Rights Commission was held on Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at 5:30 p.m., at the Marion County CVB, 1000 Cole Street, Fairmont, WV.

Brett White, Commission Chairperson, called the meeting to order and asked for a roll call of members.

Roll Call of Members

Members Present:

Brett White

Rev. Larry Buckland, Jr.

Dani DeVito

Marianne Moran

Jim Nolan

Gia Deasy

Cyndi Straight

Whereupon, a quorum of commissioners was determined to be present for the purposes of conducting the business of said commission as set forth on the Agenda.

In RE: Approval of Meeting Minutes from 1/22/19: Minutes were sent out for review by the commissioners prior to the meeting. No discussion took place.

Marianne Moran moved that the minutes be approved.

Gia Deasy seconded the motion.

Minutes were approved.

In Re: Report from Committee on Education and Community Forum:

- Discussion about setting up training for City Council members took place. Brett will follow up with the city manager about the want/need for the training suggested in our official state regarding the comments made by elected members of council in January.
- Jim Nolan introduced the idea by the committee to host a counter event during the Will Graham celebration.
- Jim Norton (community member of committee) brought the commission up to speed on what the committee has been working on since our last meeting.
 - He and other community members have raised their concerns about the event with Fairmont State University.
 - He attended the most recent Board of Governors meeting and has not yet received a response from his concern from the BOG or the President of FSU.

- Discussion between Commission and community/committee members present about how to best address the concerns with the event, including reaching out to the Title IX coordinator on campus.
- Mr. Norton has helped to create that is planned to happen at the same time (April 24-26, 2020).
- The event is planned to be called Building Bridges of Respect and is being coordinated by Renee Verbanic of Communities of Shalom.
- The event has traditionally been held every 3-4 years as the need arises and would be a 3-day celebration of diversity and ally-ship.
- Event will be held at Pierpont Community and Technical College and plans for all activities/workshops/etc. are still in the works.
- Jim Nolan thanked the committee for all their hard work.
- Jim Nolan made a motion that the HRC co-sponsor the Building Bridges of Respect event.
 - Marianne Moran seconded the motion.
 - Motion was approved.
 - Brett will be sending on our logo to be used as part of the event.

In Re: Election of 2020 Commission Officers:

- Marianne Moran made a motion to nominate the same slate of officers for the remainder of 2020.
 - Jim Nolan seconded the motion.
 - Motion was approved.

In Re: Open Citizen Forum:

- Cathy Reed
 - Invited everyone in attendance to the Greater Fairmont Council of Churches meeting for the following evening.
 - Also mentioned her support for the Fairmont Friendship Room and their need for wrapped snacks and toiletry items.

Citizen forum was then closed.

In Re: Announcements:

- Dani DeVito let everyone know that we will begin planning for the Pride Picnic soon and that they were welcome to get involved with the planning.
- Jim Nolan has a question about adding our agendas and minutes to the City of Fairmont's website.
 - Brett is following up with Hannah Turner to see if that's possible.
 - Dani will create a graphic to share on social media.
- Marianne Moran commented on how great Jim Norton's prayer at the previous evening's City Council meeting was.

Consideration of Business

Pending Business: NONE

New Business: NONE

Financial Report: NONE

Events/Forums: NONE

Adjournment

Cyndi Straight made a motion to adjourn.
Motion seconded by Larry Buckland and carried.
Meeting adjourned.

Approved this the 27 day of MAY, 2019:30



CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:



Secretary