

CITY OF FAIRMONT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Minutes of:

Regular Meeting

June 24, 2020 – 5:30p.m.

The duly called and noticed work session of the City of Fairmont Human Rights Commission was held on Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at 5:30 p.m., via Zoom.

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

Dani DeVito

Marianne Moran

Jim Nolan

Gia Deasy

Cyndi Straight

Motion to excuse Larry Buckland was made by Dani DeVito

Second by Cyndi.

Motion carried.

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 5/27/20: 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:

- Jim Nolan reviewed the list of actionable items that was created at the December meeting/work session
 - Demonstrated the Zoom roundtable discussion with the group, including those in the audience. Discussion consisted of the reaction to the death of George Floyd and the protests that followed.
- Brett White filled the commission in on what he and City Manager Valerie Means discussed in their meeting earlier in the week.
 - He reminded her about the training that the HRC was willing to setup/facilitate for the Council/City employees

- She is 100% on board will all city employees taking the training.
- Can also recommend that City election officials take it as well, but does not have the power to direct them to.

In Re: Discussion Regarding National Events:

- Dani DeVito let the commission know that she had spoken to Chief Shine of the Fairmont Police Dept., as well as leaders of the Black community to make sure they knew that we could be a resource for them.
- The group discussed the lack of diversity among the HRC and how/why that is problematic.
- The group discussed the issue of all of the HRC terms starting and ending at the same time.

In Re: Open Citizen Forum:

- Jim Norton
 - Filled the commission in on the fact that there are discussions taking place about doing a live stream package for Building Bridges of Respect.
 - Life UMC has volunteered to help with the technical aspects of that.
- D.D. Meighen
 - He is currently working with Andrew Mills on creating resource cards for law enforcement and others to hand out to the homeless population in the city.
 - Also continuing to work on a Heroes of Fairmont story campaign.

In Re: Announcements:

- Brett White
 - City Manager Means is looking into getting us our own social media account.
 - Will follow up with commission via email with her decision/findings.
 - The City Manager is also on board with our positivity/inclusivity campaign idea.
 - City is looking to set up the training this fall.
- Cyndi Straight
 - Discussed the fact that she has a relative and a close friend that are being bullied because they are choosing to wear a mask in public.
 - Wanted advice on how, as adults, we deal with that.
 - Gia Deasy suggested CDC resources and suggested that the HRC should post mask signage and expectations at any upcoming, in-person meetings.
- Jim Nolan
 - Let the commission know that he is also able to offer trainings as well through his position.
- Dani DeVito
 - Let the commission know about an upcoming March Against Police Brutality on Saturday, June 27th at 5:00pm in downtown Fairmont.
- Discussed potentially going back to in-person/blended meetings in July.
 - Brett White will check with the DAC about using their space for July 22nd meeting.

Consideration of Business

Pending Business: NONE

New Business: NONE

Financial Report: NONE

Events/Forums: NONE

Adjournment

Marianne Moran made a motion to adjourn.
Motion seconded by Cyndi Straight and carried.
Meeting adjourned.

Approved this the 22nd day of July, 2020.



CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:



Secretary