

MINUTES  
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
August 20, 2019 6:00 p.m.  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, City Hall

CITY CLERK  
2019 SEP -4 AM 9:00

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Members' Term Attendance</u> (mtgs attended-mtgs absent)	<u>End of Current</u> <u>Term of Office</u>
<b>MEMBERS PRESENT:</b>	Dr. Kay Siebler	(07-01)	10/08/19
	Michael Jasper	(08-00)	10/08/19
	Sharon Luce	(07-01)	10/08/19
	Rev. Brian Kirk	(07-01)	10/08/20
	Bridget Supple	(06-02)	10/08/21
	Hamilton Henderson	(04-01)	10/08/21
	Terri Lowdon	(05-03)	10/08/20
	Claire Clark	(05-03)	10/08/20
<b>MEMBERS ABSENT :</b>	Rusty Summers	(06-02)	10/08/21

**STAFF PRESENT:** Bryan Carter, City Attorney  
Brianna Moe, Recording Secretary

**Item #1 Call to Order**

Siebler called meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Siebler – present, Clark – present, Jasper – present, Henderson – present, Kirk – present, Lowdon – present, Luce – present, Summers – absent, Supple – present. Quorum is present.

**Item #2 Approval of Minutes**

Luce made a motion to approve minutes for the June meeting. Henderson seconded. Voice vote – all present voted in favor; no one opposed.

**Item #3 Discussion of Non-Discrimination Efforts and Needs: St. Joseph School District**

Director of Human Resources for the St. Joseph School District, Dr. Brian Kraus spoke to the Commission about how the Commission might be able to assist the District when it comes to human rights issues. Dr. Kraus stated that hiring in general is difficult because of a lack of applicants. He stated that maybe the HRC could help with advertising and letting people know that St. Joseph School District is a welcoming district with opportunities to grow professionally and personally. He spoke about the District's recruiting and some of the struggles with hiring staff. Members asked Dr. Kraus questions about the District and environment.

**Item #4 Old Business**

**Item #4a. Public Information Planning**

**Item #4a. i. Non-Discrimination Training Planning**

Jasper reported that he has not heard back about the training. He will ask the Chamber of Commerce if it has scheduled training.

**Item #4a. ii. Pride Festival Planning (September 12, 2019)**

The Commission discussed staffing a table at the festival. Jasper recommended times to be present at the table. The Commission discussed having the table after the parade from 12:00-2:00 p.m. and 5:00-8:00 p.m. Dr. Siebler will create a Google doc and send out for members to sign up to staff the table.

The Commission discussed promotional items for the festival and determined flyers will be available to hand out; Carter have candy for participants to take. The Commission discussed getting t-shirts or buttons to wear. Clark will get costs for shirts and create a design.

Jasper asked about promoting pride on the website. Carter asked Jasper to send him the information he wants on the website and he will speak with Mary Robertson about it.

**Item #4b. MWSU Subcommittee Report**

Rev. Kirk updated the Commission about recent conversations with Dr. Jackson. Rev. Kirk and Jasper are attending a class next week to discuss the Commission's wants for the project. Carter stated that had also met with Dr. Jackson and planned to attend the class meeting.

**Item #4c. Discuss recommendation to amend Non-Discrimination Ordinance to make mediation assistance available for discrimination in public accommodation**

Dr. Siebler e-mailed Councilmember Blessing about amending the Non-Discrimination Ordinance and has not received a response yet. Jasper stated he spoke to Councilmember Myers about it and Myers did not indicate a belief that an amendment would pass. The Commission discussed the potential cost of conducting a mediation and the mediators' willingness to donate their time. Rev. Kirk recommended reaching out to organizations that might be willing to pay for the mediation in certain circumstances. Jasper will reach out to other members of the City Council to see if their impression of the ordinance maybe different than Councilmember Myers'.

**Item #4d. Other related old business**

None.

**Item #5 New Business**

None.

**Item #5a. Other related new business**

None.

**Item #6 City Staff Update**

Carter stated that there were not any updates for the month.

**Item #7 Public comment**

Faith Ann Williams spoke about wanting to become more involved and potentially becoming a member of the Human Rights Commission. Dr. Siebler stated she could speak to City Council members about becoming a member. Williams stated she spoke to Mayor McMurray and he recommended her attend the meeting. Carter asked for her information to pass along to the Mayor to be considered for a nomination to the Commission.

**Item #8 Adjourn**

The next meeting of the Human Rights Commission will be held on September 17, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the 4th Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

Supple reported that she requested information from Tim Crowley during discussion of Non-Discrimination Training Planning during the meeting and received a response. She provided an update from Tim Crowley about the Non-Discrimination Training, he believes it will be on September 15, but will confirm. Supple further reported that Crowley stated that he has discussed the training with the Chamber, but the Chamber has not spoken about money. Supple reported that she asked for a price list from Crowley.

Clark stated members who would like to support the drag queen story hour could attend meetings.

Henderson made a motion to adjourn, Rev. Kirk seconded. No members opposed the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Brianna Moe, Recording Secretary (Legal Assistant)