



Royal Oak

Minutes

Royal Oak Human Rights Commission Meeting

April 1, 2024, 6:30 p.m.
City Hall Commission Chambers Room 121
203 South Troy Street
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Present: Rachel Andrews
 Annie Urasky
 Tiekeya Smith
 Bob Luxon
 Brett Tillander

Absent: Ashley Morel

Non-Voting Members Tessa Abrutyn
Present: Susan Barkman
 Alayna Brasch

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm.

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Bob Luxon
Seconded by: Brett Tillander

Motion to approve the agenda.

Motion Adopted

4. Approval of Minutes

Moved by: Annie Urasky
Seconded by: Bob Luxon

Motion to approve of March Meeting Minutes

Motion Adopted

5. **Announcements**

The Nominating committee put forward Gerardo to join the Human Rights Commission as the newest member.

6. **Public Comment**

None.

7. **Business**

7.a **Update on DAR Citizenship Ceremony**

Commissioner Sharlan Douglas spoke about the upcoming naturalization ceremony for 25 future citizens on Wednesday, May 29, 2024 at 6 PM. They will all be registered to vote as well. Human Rights Commissioners will be honored guests at the event. The Commissioner also brought up the idea of HRC all being present for a formal picture. Will look into quotes for Commissioner name tags and a table banner (use magnet name tags over pin name tags) and will bring details to next month's May meeting.

7.b **Update on Hamer Finch Wilkins Park**

Ceremony date for park opening will be near the time of Mother's Day.

7.c **Discussion on Action Steps for Building Relationships with the Community**

Idea of incorporating an editorial calendar to plan out organized outreach campaigns; example: writing an article for the Insight newspaper. Another idea: tabling at Farmers Market. Will follow up with Shelley at Farmers Market to ask about availability and cost. Annie Urasky volunteered to write a draft of the Insight article by next month's May meeting. Will make sure Annie Urasky has the correct deadline for Insight content submissions.

Tiekeya Smith: Said she would be willing to have an HRC-related suggestion box in her restaurant for the group to get feedback from residents/visitors.

Rachel Andrews: Suggested the HRC should collab with the Community Engagement Board and other boards on events and activities; perhaps starting by attending other boards meetings to introduce the HRC.

The group also discussed the idea of starting to put into motion putting together a community survey. They also talked about the possibility of holding community listening sessions later in the year.

8. Public Comment

Lisa gave update on Juneteenth planning committee efforts and the upcoming event. Lisa brought up idea of HRC hosting a table at this event. Juneteenth is on a Wednesday.

Lisa gave good ideas as to what the group could give out and talk about at tabling events.

9. Commissioner Reports

Annie Urasky: Spoke on April being Fair Housing month and related events.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Moved by: Bob Luxon

Seconded by: Tiekeya Smith

Motion to adjourn.

Motion Adopted