



Human Rights Commission Agenda

April 7, 2022 | 6:30 p.m. | Quincy City Hall

Call to Order & Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

Public Comment (3 minutes only)

Committee Reports

Standing Committees

- Education Committee – Commissioner Williams
- Public Relations – Chair position vacant
- Community Action – Chair position vacant
 - Quincy Juneteenth event update
- Housing – Commissioner Philpot
 - Quincy Housing Authority Activities Update
 - Safe and Livable Housing Committee Complaint Form Update
 - United Way Community Assessment

Temporary Committees

- Code Revision – Chair Ferguson-Smith
- By-laws Committee – Chair position vacant
- Strategic Planning - Chair position vacant

New Business

- Quincy Junior High Restroom Situation
- Acknowledgement of Service – Departing Commissioners
- Late Additions

Commissioner's Comments

Adjournment

City of Quincy, Illinois

Human Rights Commission Meeting

February 10, 2022

Call To Order:

Present: Chairman Macy Ferguson-Smith, Commissioners Angela Caldwell, JJ Magliocco, Cecil Weathers, Dennis Williams, Mark Philpot, Alderwoman Katie Awerkamp, Officer Kelby Rescinito

Excused: Commissioner/Secretary Kate Daniels, Commissioner Mary Lou McLaughlin

Visitors: The Honorable Mike Troup, Mayor/City of Quincy, Todd Eyler, Jeff Conte/City of Quincy-Director of Utilities and Engineering

Meeting Called to Order at 6:34 p.m., Commissioner Philpot to serve as Acting Secretary

Public Comment: None

Committee Reports:

Education Committee: Commissioner Williams briefed all present on the current search for Superintendent of Schools. Also, shared about new position created by the district to serve as a liaison to address truancy issues. Commissioner Williams noted that the individual was recruited from Bella Ease/Teen Reach, and was well qualified.

Public Relations Committee: Chair Position Vacant

Commissioner Weathers briefed all present on the upcoming preparation for the Juneteenth Celebration in Quincy. Commissioner Weathers noted that the likely location would be at Jackson-Lincoln Pool and the surrounding area. Weathers added that there would likely be a number of community partners participating, including Blessing Health System. The event will also include a number of vendors. Mayor Troup interjected that City funds might be available to support

this event, and that there was an application process, but that there would be ample time to share discuss that process.

Housing Committee: Commissioner Philpot distributed, as a part of his report, a summary of the Minimum Housing Complaint forms that had been turned into the City of Quincy for 2021. That summary included addresses of properties, method of complaint received and complaint status. Philpot also shared that a local recovery group, Recovery Anonymous, was seeking to build a sober living house on 1118 N. 8th Street. It was noted that this would require rezoning on the part of the city, and that process is underway. Philpot explained that this was relevant to the Commission because it would house up to 15 persons, and would be a pathway to addressing homelessness, improving residents mental health and possibly serving as a gateway to resources. Commissioners agreed that this would be worthy of further review, and Philpot stated he would monitor its progress. Philpot also shared that he had spoken with Quincy Housing Authority Director Jerry Gille about the prospect of applying of a Family Self-Sufficiency Grant.

Temporary Committees

Code Revision: It was noted that a 2nd reading had already been made by the City Council regarding reducing the number of commissioners from 15 to 9. Discussion was had about the difficulty in maintaining quorum over the past 6 months, and how adjusting that number could improve the effectiveness of the Commission. It was determined, via general consensus, that 9 would be an appropriate number of commissioners.

By-Laws: Tabled pending restructuring

Strategic Planning: Tabled pending restructuring

Annual Report : Due in May

New Business

Brief discussion was had about the MLK Service Donation. It was noted that 73 persons participated in the Zoom MLK Celebration

Commissioner's Comments

Chair Ferguson-Smith discussed her doctoral candidacy and shared her plans to exit the Commission towards the summer. All present applauded her for her

service and wished her well. Commissioner Philpot noted that the Commission has served without a Vice Chair for some time, and with Commissioner Ferguson-Smith's impending departure, that it would be important to fill that position to insure continuity of leadership. Commissioner Philpot volunteered to fill the position. Commissioner Averkamp made a motion to elect Philpot as Vice Chair, and was Seconded by Commissioner Ferguson-Smith. Vote was unanimous in the affirmative. Commissioner Williams shared about the success of Bella Ease/Teen Reach, and the move to their new headquarters at 707/709 Broadway.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Mark C. Philpot
Acting Secretary