

Fayetteville  Cumberland
HUMAN RELATIONS

Special Meeting
Thursday, August 8, 2019, 5:30 p.m.
Fire Station 14
632 Langdon Street, Fayetteville, NC 28301

Present: Vice-Chair Eric Olson; Dr. Mark Kendrick, Secretary; Commissioner Kevin Brooks; Commissioner Rosa Garris-Turner; Commissioner Milette Harris; Commissioner Joshua James; Commissioner William “Bill” J. Milton, II; Commissioner Semone Pemberton; Commissioner Georgeanna Pinckney; Commissioner Franco Webb; Commissioner Jeffrey Wire.

Absent: Commissioners: Gregory Foxx; Ajax Rangel; Cherie Readus; Dawn Rheaume Maria del Pilar Salvat.

Guest: Mrs. Wire

Staff Present: Dr. Anthony Wade, Director; Yamile Nazar, Manager; Willetta Ragin, Human Relations Administrative Specialist; and Janet Beaudry, Office Assistant II

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by Vice-Chair Eric Olson, followed by a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Olson welcomed the new Human Relations Commissioners and had everyone introduce themselves and give a brief biography.

Motion to approve agenda was made by Commissioner Wire, seconded by Commissioner Pinckney; vote unanimous.

Motion to approve the June 13, 2019, minutes was made by Commissioner Kendrick, seconded by Commissioner James; vote unanimous.

Committee Reports:

- A. ARA and MLK. Commissioner Harris gave a verbal report. At their last meeting it was discussed that the foundation will no longer serve as a pass through for the funds raised for the academic scholarships. The Commission needs to form a 501c(3) “Friends of Human Relations,” or identify a local non-profit who could serve as a temporary funding administrator. Additionally, it was noted that as a result that the name of the scholarships is the MLK Jr. Scholarship it appears that certain students may not believe they should apply. Therefore, the committee recommends that the name be changed to the Fayetteville-Cumberland Human Relations Academic Scholarship.
- B. Rapid Response and Hate Crimes. Commissioner Brooks reported that the committee had not met, however he shared that plans are in place to request that the US Department of Justice

Community Relations Services provide de-escalation training for commissioners and other community partners.

- C. Ad Hoc Marketing. Commissioners Milton, Pemberton, Webb will meet immediately after the commission meeting.

Old Business.

Commissioner Brooks shared the 12th annual Gotcha Back kick-off event on August 17, 2019 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm on FSU campus. Organizations will be on hand to provide information to parents and children. Somewhere between 750-1000 back packs will be given to attendees. This year's theme is physical fitness. There will be a 5K at 7:30 am. August 15, 2019 is the deadline in order to donate supplies that will be placed in the back packs. Supplies needed are: notebook paper, wire ring composition books, rulers, pencils, colored folders, toothbrushes and toothpaste.

New Business.

Dr. Wade shared that the NAACP's 31st Life Membership Banquet will be held on September 28, 2019, at the John D. Fuller Rec Center at 5:00 pm. Commissioners are asked to let the staff know if they wish to attend as the Department will purchase the tickets. Currently Commissioners Kendrick and Pinckney have confirmed their attendance.

Commissioner Wire reported that Women's Equality Day will be held on Tuesday, August 28, 2019 at Iron Mike Conference Center from 11:45 am – 1:00 pm. He added that the Army is going to discontinue the monthly observance and replace them for one annual celebration of Army Heritage. It appears that the month of June was selected for 2020.

Commissioner James reported that as of December 2018 a group of about 100 volunteers from Fayetteville have been meeting Grey Hound buses transporting immigrants from detention centers to other states further north with lay-over / transfers to other buses. Most are from Central American and do not have a command of the English language. The volunteers provide food and medicine, when needed. Other items needed and supplied are baby diapers, women's sanitary supplies, baby formula, women's inner clothing, and other necessities. According to persons assisted all of their possessions are either taken by people in Mexico or ICE on the U.S. side of the border. Volunteers meet three buses per day; midnight, 4:55 am and 5:30 pm. The Migrant Assistance Project has assisted over 1,600 people thus far. A brochure was shared with the commission that explains the project. This humanitarian effort is happening across the state and country. Here in Fayetteville the effort is maintained at the downtown FAST Center.

Dr. Wade reported that this board has been recognized as the hardest working board in the county. On Monday, August 12, 2019 the Annual Report will be presented to City Council by Commissioner Olson. Dr. Wade will send it out as a drop box link. On August 18 – 21, Dr. Wade will attend the annual IAOHRA conference. He reported that the Municipal Equity Index has been completed and supplied to the Human Rights Commission. If upheld by the Commission, Fayetteville's current score is 58 out of a possible 122 points.

Commissioners Harris and Wire spoke about the suicide rate in the armed forces, especially the Air Force and what they are doing to decrease that number.

Director's Report: Dr. Anthony Wade. See attached.

Next Commission meeting will take place on September 12, 2019, at 5:30 pm. at Festival Park Plaza Training Room.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m., motion to adjourn by Commissioner Harris, seconded by Commissioner Pinckney. Vote unanimous.

Approved _____
(Date)

Dr. Mark Kendrick, Secretary

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August 8, 2019

TO: Human Relations Commission
FROM: Dr. Anthony Wade, Human Relations Director
SUBJECT: Director's Report (August 2019)

The following is provided for your information and review.

Meeting with the N.C. State Highway Patrol: On June 14 and 18, 2019, I met with Lieutenant T. Daniels, Lieutenant C. M. Hardee, First Sergeant Sharlene Cotton and members of Troop B of the North Carolina State Highway Patrol (NCSHP) located in Fayetteville. The meetings involved NCSHP's participation in the second community engagement meeting associated with the film, "The Hate U Give." The event is a collaboration between Human Relations, Cumberland County Sheriff's Office, Fayetteville Police Department (FPD), Fayetteville Fire Department, Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church, and Fayetteville Technical Community College (FTCC). The NCSHP were informed that they have an open invitation and are always welcomed at upcoming community engagement events sponsored by Human Relations and its collaborative partners. (Top (left to right): Dr. Wade, Lieutenant Daniels, Lieutenant Hardee, Fayetteville Police Lieutenant Gary Womble; bottom: First Sergeant Cotton (center left), Human Relations Manager Yamile Nazar (far right) and members of Troop B.)



Attendance at the Eastern N.C. Regional Meeting of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE): On June 8, 2019 Ms. Nazar and I attended the Eastern N.C. NOBLE regional meeting at FTCC. I was recognized on behalf of the Commission at the meeting which was hosted by the FPD. The event brought local law enforcement agencies across eastern North Carolina together for information, training and dialogue. We were privileged to hear remarks from N.C. Supreme Court Chief Justice Cheri Beasley. Appointed by Governor Roy Cooper, Justice Beasley made history as the first Black female to serve in this capacity for the N.C. Supreme Court and the fourth in that role nationwide. Professional development training on implicit bias and criminal justice reform was also



provided by Fayetteville resident and retired 12th Judicial District Superior Court Judge Gregory Weeks.

Meeting with FTCC: On June 11, 2019 Commissioner Georgeanna Pinckney, Ms. Nazar and I met with FTCC's Dean of College and Career Readiness, Dr. Elmore Lowery. Among the issues discussed was the opportunity to conduct fair housing training for all students affiliated with his programs after the start of the 2019-20 school year. Dr. Lowery stated that he would provide the dates as soon as possible and I thank Commissioner Pinckney for her involvement with the meeting.



"The Hate U Give" Community Engagement Meeting on June 25, 2019: The second of several planned community engagement sessions involving the June 25th screening of the film "The Hate U Give" was held from 9am to 4pm at FTCC. As with the March 2019 session, the film was selected as a way to foster community dialogue around several contemporary topics that were addressed after the film and over lunch in facilitated dialogue groups. Attendees included city management, community residents, churches, business leaders, higher education officials, public safety professionals, as well as city/county human relations commissioners, city fair housing board members, and others.

Thanks to the collaborative partners - Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church, Cumberland County Sheriff's Office, Fayetteville Police Department, Fayetteville Fire Department, and FTCC - who partnered with Fayetteville-Cumberland Human Relations to host this event. This series is proving to be an excellent way to engage our community in a discussion regarding race, youth, family, police-community relations, diversity and human relations.



Participation in Special Events during 2019 PRIDE Month: On June 28-29, 2019 I was honored to represent the Human Relations Department and Commission at PRIDE observances in Fayetteville and Fort Bragg. The events were recognized in proclamations signed by Fayetteville Mayor Mitch Colvin and XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg Commanding General, Lieutenant General Paul LaCamera.

The guest speaker for the Fort Bragg LGBT History Month observance was Fayetteville PRIDE Board member Samantha Orozco. Among the attendees were Orozco's spouse, Army First Lieutenant Katie Orozco, and Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Christine Michaels. The event was held by the XVIII Airborne Corps and the 18th Field FCHR Director's Report



Artillery Brigade on June 28th from 11:45am to 1:00pm at the Iron Mike Conference & Convention Center.

On June 29th Cumberland County Commissioner Charles Evans and I attended the Fayetteville PRIDE FEST held at Festival Park from 12:00pm to 6:00pm. Commissioner Evans provided greetings at the event that, according to Fayetteville PRIDE President Danielle Fennern, drew more than 5,000 people. (Top - l to r: Dr. Wade, Christine Michaels, 1Lt Orozco, Samantha Orozco, Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Magner, Commander, 18th Field Artillery 188th Brigade Support Battalion; Bottom – l to r: 1Lt Orozco, Samantha Orozco, Dr. Wade, Danielle Fennern)

Attendance at Township Events in Cumberland County: It was a pleasure to represent the

Department and Commission in Linden with Linden Mayor Marie Butler (upper left) and Godwin Mayor Willie Burnette (upper right) at the July 2nd opening of Cumberland County's latest disability-friendly splash pad at the Little River Park in Linden. The wheelchair- and walker-friendly splash pad measures 1,000 square feet and features a Super Splash and Aqua Dome. The grand opening was also attended by County Commission Vice-Chair Marshall Faircloth and County Commissioners Glenn Adams and Michael Boose. Additionally, Linden Town Commissioners Barbara Denning and Frances Collier, and Assistant County Manager Sally Shutt were also present at the event. Both Mayor Butler and Mayor Burnette welcomed the presence of a Commission meeting in their towns and I stated that I would share this information with the Commission for its action as deemed appropriate.



Development of “The Hate U Give” Public

Information Video. After her attendance at the July session, Assistant City Manager Angel Wright-Lanier (center) was so impressed that she recommended a public information video be developed to better inform the community about the community engagement series. Human Relations has collaborated with City Corporate Communications to develop a 20-30 minute video and trailer specific to this request. The video will include interviews and reflections with residents, public safety officials, religious leaders, and other



participants. Filming of this video will occur on August 22nd at the Fayetteville State University (FSU) film studio. Once completed, the video will be shown on FayTV and uploaded to the City’s Facebook and YouTube social media platforms as well as FSU’s resident halls and student center network. Thanks to ACM Wright-Lanier for her collaboration and strong support for the Department and Commission.

Participation in the 2019 Action Pathways Training Conference:

Action Pathways CEO Lonnie Ballard has invited Human Relations to provide diversity and inclusion (D&I) training sessions for over 300 employees at its August 23, 2019 all-day professional development conference. Six D&I sessions will be conducted between 10am and 5pm



at the Iron Mike Conference and Convention Center on Fort Bragg under the Department's "Partnering with Business" initiative. The presentation of these sessions is in accordance with the Ordinance which allows for the Department and Commission to "Arrange and activate institutes, educational and consultation conferences with employers, labor organizations, employment agencies, housing industry, managers of places of public accommodations, educational, religious, civic and community organizations to seek understanding and implementation of the civil rights laws and foster good will within the city."