



**Human Relations Commission
Regular Meeting**

Thursday, June 23, 2022

Kiwanis Recreation Center, 352 Devers Street, Fayetteville
and Zoom

Present: Chairwoman Semone Pemberton; Vice-Chairwoman Milette Harris; Secretary Eileen Hatch; Commissioner William “Bill” Milton, II; Commissioner Eric Olson; Commissioner Peter B. Pappas; Commissioner Franco Webb; Commissioner Eric D. Washington, SFC; Commissioner Dwight E. Palmer Jr, Rev; Commissioner Donna Pelham

Absent: Commissioner Samar Abdelfatah; Commissioner Dr. Elmore Lowery; Commissioner Dakota Wright; Commissioner Abram Flores; Commissioner Jessica Black; Commissioner Shirley Francis; Commissioner Brenda Vianna

Staff Present: Yamile Nazar, DEI Director; Diona Curtis, Office Assistant II

Chairwoman Pemberton called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Chairwoman Pemberton called for a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Webb, seconded by Commissioner Milton, II. Vote was unanimous.

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Secretary Hatch, seconded by Commissioner Pelham. Vote was unanimous.

City SPIRIT: Chairwoman Pemberton stated August 1, the committee will be presenting an update to City Council during their work session about concerns that were addressed, and the progress made from the initial meeting up until the present. There have been over 500 respondents whose feedback will be shared, as well as any recommendations from the Ad Hoc committee. The City Council will have the opportunity to ask questions and look over the content. The following week, August 8, is the City Council meeting and there will be a repeat of what occurred at the work session. A document with all the details will be sent over on July 27, giving the City Council time to review it before the first presentation on August 1.

Ad Hoc Committee: Chairwoman Pemberton stated that there will be three members on behalf of the Ad Hoc committee that will speak to the City Council on August 1 and August 8, and they will need to be prepared. Vice-Chairwoman Harris expressed that she will send out an email regarding her availability in July for meetings.

Community Education: Chairwoman Pemberton explained that community education was a topic for discussion with Commissioner Lowery. Due to Commissioner Lowery's absence, community education will be postponed to the next meeting.

Juneteenth Update: Chairwoman Pemberton stated that Juneteenth and PRIDE will be on Project Matrix every year going forward. There was a tent set up with Economic Development, and due to a storm the night before, it blew away causing our inability to participate.

PRIDE: Ms. Nazar stated that the PRIDE event was the Saturday following the meeting, June 25. Stephanie confirmed for the event from 11 am-1 pm, Commissioner Washington volunteered for set-up and take down, and Camaron Williams and Sable Fontaine from the Fair Housing Board are possible volunteers. Commissioner Milton II volunteered to help, and Ms. Nazar informed him that they will be meeting at her office at 10:15 am. Vice-Chairwoman Harris stated that she will send out an email for volunteers, and will also provide PRIDE things such as flags, hats, and air fresheners for giveaways to the public.

Departmental Report: Ms. Nazar stated that she wanted to provide an update on three topics. On May 20, there was a facilitated discussion for a group called Network. Network is an organization of professional and executive women in the Fayetteville community. Its primary purpose is to provide peer networking and to promote continuing professional development among women in the community. On May 26, Ms. Nazar was interviewed by WIDU on Human Relations, DEI, and Fair Housing. The same day, Councilman Jones requested a meeting to learn more about the Human Relations Department; he was intrigued. There were twenty-seven meetings in May, Ms. Nazar conducted two facilitated discussions with outside agencies, and there were 134 phone calls.

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for August 25, 2022.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Palmer Jr. and seconded by Vice-Chairwoman Harris. With a unanimous vote, Chairwoman Pemberton adjourned the meeting at 5:56 p.m.

Approved _____

Eileen Hatch, Secretary