



Human Relations Commission
Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, January 12, 2023

Festival Park Plaza Training Room, 225 Ray Avenue, Fayetteville

Present: Chairwoman Semone Pemberton; Vice-Chairwoman Milette Harris; Secretary Samar Abdelfatah; Commissioner Dr. Elmore Lowery; Commissioner Abram Flores

Absent: N/A

Staff Present: Yamile Nazar, DEI Director; Diona Curtis, Administrative Specialist

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

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Secretary Abdelfatah, seconded by Commissioner Lowery. Vote was unanimous.

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Secretary Abdelfatah, seconded by Vice-Chairwoman Harris. Vote was unanimous.

Market House Update: Ms. Nazar stated that she met with the Consultants and the Architect, and the Market House plans are moving forward. The consultants and City staff will have a site recon in February, and a plan of action and a timeline will be drafted thirty days after the recon. Once a design is completed, the tactical urbanization will be completed and it will be presented to Council. After construction begins, there is an estimated five-month time frame. Ms. Nazar stated she communicated an update to the City Manager and Demetrius Haddock about the Archie Beebe permanent marker.

Annual Luncheon/Scholarships: Chairwoman Pemberton stated that there were a few items that needed to be discussed. Ms. Nazar stated that our emcee will be Alysse Stewart from Magic 106.9 FM, who is a radio personality. Advertisements, sponsorships, and ticket sales will need to be the priority before the January 17 deadline. Chairwoman Pemberton inquired about how many nominations there are and suggested having a minimum of five nominations per category. Ms. Nazar stated that Commissioners are able to nominate people as well. Tickets can be purchased at the Human Relations Department.

MLK Jr. Scholarship Package: Ms. Nazar stated that the scholarship package is not prepared until after the Awards Luncheon. Vice-Chairwoman Harris explained there are three scholarships in the Cumberland County Foundation and the Commission will not be placing any more money in it. There is \$75,000 in the account and it will grow off interest, so the funds raised from the Awards will determine how many scholarships will be awarded. Chairwoman Pemberton inquired how much money will need to be raised to be able to award ten scholarships, and Vice-Chairwoman Harris stated that we needed to raise \$7000. Discussion ensued about other ways that funds could be raised.

MLK Breakfast: Chairwoman Pemberton stated that the MLK Breakfast was on Monday, January 16. Two years ago, the Commission purchased a table for the breakfast before it got canceled, so there will not be another table purchased this year since they still have the money for the previous event.

Got Consent: Chairwoman Pemberton inquired about *Got Consent*. Vice-Chairwoman Harris and Secretary Abdelfatah stated that their contact for *Got Consent* was the principal of South View. Secretary Abdelfatah stated that *Got Consent* is being planned to reach multiple schools in Cumberland County. Ms. Nazar stated that the person to contact will be the Assistant Superintendent of Cumberland County Schools, Melody Chalmers. Vice-Chairwoman Harris stated the Air Force contact for *Got Consent* is Alaina Kelly, Violence Prevention, and Harris will be the liaison for the Human Relations Commission.

Dining & Dialogue: Vision Resource Center: Chairwoman Pemberton inquired about an update on Dining & Dialogue. There are currently sixty-seven people registered for the event, and the digital link will be resent to the Commissioners. Chairwoman Pemberton stated she meets with the County Commissioners on January 17 or 19, and discussed her role at Dining & Dialogue with Ms. Nazar.

Bystander Intervention: Vice-Chairwoman Harris stated Bystander Intervention needs to be postponed to FY24.

Community Education: Chairwoman Pemberton suggested postponing Community Education, and explained why it is important. The plan is to partner with the Fayetteville Police Department and Sheriff's Department to answer questions for the community about procedures. Secretary Abdelfatah suggested hosting community conversations via media outlets. Ms. Nazar stated that there are no events scheduled for March, so a Zoom invite could be advertised to host a community discussion. Chairwoman Pemberton stated she will add it to the agenda for the next Human Relations Commission meeting, and discuss it with the Commissioners that are a part of the Rapid Response Committee.

Student Human Relations Commission: Vice-Chairwoman Harris stated that she will reach out in February.

The Talk: Ms. Nazar stated that The Talk will be postponed to the second half of this year. Vice-Chairwoman Harris suggested getting on Sunny Kelly’s calendar now due to fast booking. Ms. Nazar stated that she will call him tomorrow, January 13, to get it scheduled during the school year to possibly get the school system to make it a field trip. There will be an entry fee for the general public.

Items to add to the Matrix: Chairwoman Pemberton reviewed the Matrix and inquired about any other events that need to be added to Project Matrix. Ms. Nazar stated that The International Folk Festival is in September, PRIDE and Juneteenth in June, the Autism Festival in April if it starts back up, and the Scholarship Banquet is on May 4. The banquet will be held in the Council Chambers and certificates are awarded to the recipients of the scholarships.

The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2023.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Vice-Chairwoman Harris and seconded by Secretary Adbelfatah. With a unanimous vote, Chairwoman Pemberton adjourned the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

Approved _____

Samar Abdelfatah, Secretary