

**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 31, 2022**

The City of Fulton Human Rights Commission met on Monday, January 31, 2022 at 5:15 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room in City Hall, 18 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Fulton, Missouri. The meeting was called to order at 5:18 p.m. by Carmen Brandt, Chair of the Commission. Roll call was noted by Laure Long, Deputy City Clerk, and the members present were: Carmen Brandt, Tom Clapp, LeWanda Jackson, Sherry Lococo, Don Stassel, Alan Combs, Council Liaison, Darin Wernig, Public Information Officer, and Leah Laramore, Callaway County Human Resources Director. Absent was Commission member Adrienne Lindsey.

The Commission members introduced themselves to new commission member Sherry Lococo.

**COMMENTS FROM VISITORS**

There were no comments from visitors at this meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 29, 2021.**

The November 29, 2021 meeting minutes were presented for approval.

Motion was offered by Tom Clapp and seconded by Don Stassel to approve the November 29, 2021 minutes. Motion carried with five members of the Commission voting in favor, and one member (Lindsey) absent.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**a) Jane Bierdeman-Fike Humanitarian Award Discussion**

The commission briefly discussed the humanitarian award and still decided to put the award and program on hold for now, and discuss it later in the year.

Leah Laramore left the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

**b) Fair Housing Month Project Discussion**

Carmen Brandt said she spoke with Valerie Sebacher, Fulton Housing Authority Executive Director, about a partnership for a fair housing month project. After some discussion, the commission liked the idea of a poster contest and starting small by offering it to three different age groups within the Housing Authority. The commission would like to ask for funds or gift cards to the Legends Rec Plex for prizes to the participants and winners.

The commission would like to meet again on February 28, 2022 to discuss the contest further.

**c) Juneteenth Discussion**

Carmen said she spoke with a local group called One Life and also the NAACP about possibly partnering with them for a program to recognize Juneteenth. After some discussion, the commission would like to move forward with planning a program held at a City park, on the afternoon of Saturday June 18, 2022 with speakers, singers, and kid activities similar to a program Jefferson City held last year.

Alan Combs, Council Liaison left the meeting at 5:54 p.m.

**d) Public Education & Outreach**

This discussion was moved to “ Number 6. New Business, Item a) ”

**e) Other Unfinished Business**

There was no other unfinished business to discuss at this meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**a) Calendar of Ethnic Celebrations Discussion & Public Education & Outreach Discussion**

Carmen said it was brought to her attention that the Human Rights Commission should look into recognizing celebratory events for all ethnic groups. Carmen asked the commission to do some research and compile a list all of all of the different ethnic celebrations throughout the year.

Once compiled, the commission would like to feature a paragraph in each City of Fulton Newsletter with the help of Darin Wernig, Public Information Officer. Darin explained there are six newsletters a year and that the next addition would be for the months of April and May. He said the deadline to submit something for that newsletter would be March 21, 2022.

The commission would like to seek the Mayor’s approval for this idea.

**b) Black History Month Discussion**

Carmen said she was asked by Debbie LaRue to take on the Callaway Bank display window for Black History Month. Carmen said she was hoping to display a banner and Black History Month books, and asked the commission if they had any other ideas. Sherry Lococo said she had a poster that her students did last year that was titled “We are Woven Together” and it was given

to Sherry McBride. Carmen said she would contact Sherry McBride and ask about the art project given to her and ask to utilize it for the window display.

Carmen said she wanted to make sure the commission has the Mayor's approval to receive recognition for the Black History Month window display.

**c) Other New Business**

There was some discussion about an incident that occurred at the Fulton High School the week before involving profanity and racial discrimination. Carmen was approached about what the Human Rights Commission was going to do about the situation. Carmen explained to the inquiring person that formal complaints and investigations are forwarded to the Jefferson City Human Rights Commission, as the Fulton commission doesn't handle complaints, rather provides education and promotion.

Carmen wanted the Mayor to be made aware of the situation and that she was approached as a member of the Human Rights Commission about the incident.

The commission would like to meet again on February 28, 2022 to discuss the Fair Housing Project, Calendar of Ethnic Celebrations, and Juneteenth.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business to come before the Human Rights Commission, motion to adjourn was offered by Tom Clapp and seconded by LeWanda Jackson. Motion carried with five members of the Commission voting in favor, and one member (Lindsey) absent. The meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

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Laure Long  
Deputy City Clerk