



HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday, November 7, 2018

6:00 PM

311 S. Main

Council Chamber

Chelsea, MI 48118

- (1) Roll Call:
Present: Kaminsky, Gilbert, Morrel-Samuels, Fox, Albertson (Council liaison). Absent: Klein-Shapiro
- (2) Approval of Agenda:
Motion to approve agenda by Kaminsky, second by Morrel-Samuels. All ayes. Motion carried.
- (3) Public Comment: None
- (4) Presentations of Invited Speakers: None
- (5) Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting – September 5, 2018:
Motion to approve minutes by Gilbert, second by Kaminsky. All Ayes. Motion carried.
- (6) Regular Business:
 - a) Individual Survey – Age 19 and under
Morrel-Samuels and Gilbert categorized the comments from respondents 19 and under. Two hundred and fifty-nine students completed the survey, the largest group of respondents. The second largest age group was 40-59 (240). Students spoke positively about clubs and organizations at the high school and the overall climate. Some students spoke about issues with bullying and others questioned the need for attention to human rights. Fox noted that the information from the survey could be helpful for the school board. The members expressed appreciation for the high school administration for distributing the survey to students, parents and staff.

Morrel-Samuels noted that, based on survey comments, there may be a lack of understanding and some misconceptions about the role of the Human Rights Commission and suggested that survey presentations include background information about the HRC.

b) Plans to report to City Council

Fox suggested scheduling a work session to prepare a survey report for City Council. The report will be presented at one of the Council meetings in January. Fox will request space for a work session TBA later in November.

c) Plans for Data Use

Following the Council presentation, the HRC plans to present the survey data to the school district and to hold a general meeting for the public, as outlined in the HRC annual plan. Other presentations may be done upon request.

d) Commissioner Terms

The terms of Gilbert and Fox expire in February. These openings will be posted on the City website. Current commissioners may re-apply for the positions.

(7) Communications:

Thorhauer complaint: Additional correspondence to the committee was received from Ms. Thorhauer. Fox reported that, in the opinion of the city attorney, this information does not change the disposition of the original complaint to which the city has already provided a response. Fox will forward a request from the HRC to the city attorney asking that he inform the complainant that the status of the complaint is unchanged.

(8) Reports and Future Agenda Items:

Kaminsky suggested inviting a former city planner from Ann Arbor to speak to the commission about ways to support diversity within the community. The members agreed to extend an invitation to this speaker.

(9) Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Kaminsky, second by Gilbert. All Ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.