



**JHRC Meeting
Tuesday, September 13, 2011**

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: William "Casey" Bulgin
Cristina "Tina" Comstock
Dane Grey
Susan Harthill, Esq.
Yvonne McClain
Ken "Kenneth" Middleton
Daniel "Dan" O'Connor
Michele L. A. Rollins, Esq.
Maria Taylor
Michael Wachholz
Dennis Wade
Cynthia "Cindy" Watson
Dottie Wilson

Commissioners Absent: Parvez Ahmed, Ph.D.
Leonardo del Rosario, M.D.
Alvin White, Ph.D.

Staff Present: Charlene Taylor Hill, Executive Director
Linda Grant-Hunter, Assistant Director
Michael Wedner, Esq., Deputy General Counsel
Lisa Stafslie, Community Outreach
Joan Dolbear, Executive Secretary II

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Michael Wachholtz, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

II. Moment of Silence

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Dennis Wade and seconded by Commissioner Dottie Wilson to approve the August 9, 2011 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Old Business

A. 9/11 Commemoration Post Review

Commissioner Wachholz stated he was personally pleased with the event and thanked Commissioner Parvez Ahmed for his input and organization of the commemoration. Commissioner Wilson stated it was also shown on WJCT.



VI. New Business

There was no new business discussed.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Community Relations Committee

Commissioner Dennis Wade, Committee Chair, stated the committee met on Monday, September 12, 2011 and discussed the status of the Civil Discourse Project. There is a concern about whether the committee will be able to obtain enough funding required for the project. There was also discussion regarding possibly changing the project to a smaller program. The timeline will be sometime in the beginning of 2012.

B. Communications Committee

Commissioner Michele Rollins, Committee Chair, reported that nine (9) City Council Members have met with JHRC Commissioners and/or staff. Ten (10) meetings will be scheduled with the remaining Council Members prior to September 27, 2011.

C. Employment Committee

Commissioner Cindy Watson, Committee Chair, stated that the Employment Committee met on Tuesday, September 6, 2011 with representatives from the JTA, i.e. Jackie Gibbs, Chief Operating Officer, and Shannon K. Eller, Government & Public Relations Officer. The roundtable discussion focused on barriers to employment as it relates to transportation issues. The committee will be continuing its roundtable dialogue with WORKSource at a meeting scheduled for November 3, 2011 at 10:30 a.m.

D. Housing and Public Accommodations

Commissioner Dan O'Connor, Committee Chair, stated a meeting has been scheduled for the committee to meet on Thursday, October 6, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. Commissioner Michele Rollins has joined the committee.

E. Special Legislative Committee

Commissioner Casey Bulgin, Committee Chair, stated the committee is waiting to hear when Mayor Brown will be able to meet with the committee. In addition, the committee will be working on drafting a resolution in support of the ordinance amendments. The committee will meet in October—date to be determined.

VIII. Executive Director & Staff Reports

Charlene Taylor Hill, Executive Director, updated the Commission on the FY12 budget review by the City Council's Finance Committee. A formal vote was not taken during the budget review.

JHRC has a public accommodations cause finding, which will be heard by the Housing and Public Accommodations committee at their next meeting.



Global Jax (formerly Jacksonville International Visitors Bureau) will be hosting a delegation from the Republic of Georgia on September 26, 2011. The committee has asked Ms. Hill to meet with the delegation to discuss the work of the Human Rights Commission and best practices for achieving racial, ethnic and religious diversity and inclusion.

A Racial Equity Seminar, also part of Project Breakthrough, will begin on Wednesday evening, September 21, 2011 and will end on Saturday, September 24, 2011. This seminar will focus on education. Approximately twenty-six people have been invited to participate.

Ms. Hill extended her thanks to Lisa Stafslie, Community Outreach, for her coordination of the 9/11 event. In addition, she stated, because of the partnership JHRC has with WJCT, the program reached a greater audience as the program was televised three times.

IX. Chair's Report/Comments

Commissioner Wachholz announced that Commissioner Isabelle Lopez resigned from the Commission because she has accepted a job in St. John's County and is also a resident of St. Johns County. The ordinance states you must work or live in Duval County to serve on the JHRC

Commissioner Michele Rollins has accepted the vice chair position, vacated by Commissioner Lopez, temporarily, (through the end of the year.)

X. Announcements

Commissioner Cindy Watson announced that October is Pride Month. An LGBT parade will be held on Saturday, October 2, 2011 and a festival is scheduled for Saturday, October 15, 2011.

October 6, 2011 @ 9:30 a.m.....Housing & Public Accommodations Committee
TBD.....Special Legislative Committee
October 3, 2011 @ 11:00 a.m.....Community Relations Committee
November 3, 2011 @ 10:30 a.m.....Employment Committee
October 6, 2011 @ 3:30 p.m.....Communications Committee
October 11, 2011 @ 11:30 a.m.....Executive Committee
October 11, 2011 @ 12:00 p.m.....Commission Meeting

XI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:47 p.m.