

NORTH CAROLINA HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
MINUTES
May 30, 2019

The Human Relations Commission met on Thursday, May 30, 2019 in the Commission Room at 1711 New Hope Church Road, Raleigh, North Carolina. Commissioners present were: Edith Chance, Clay Eddleman, Richard Huffman, Paul Norman, Arthur Rich, Toussaint Romain, Anna Stearns, Steve Stevenson, Charlotte Williams.

Commissioners phoned in: Jameesha Harris, Toni King, Angelo Mathay, Adam Wilson.

Staff members present were Richard Boulden, Gene Troy, Sharesa Wilkins, Elouise Williams.

Philip Jordan, City of Durham Human Relations Manager, was present.

Subcommittees did not meet prior to meeting.

Quorum was met.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 11:02 a.m. with Chairman Toussaint Romain presiding.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners present and phoned in were noted.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMISSIONERS, OFFICIALS, STAFF-PROGRAM MANAGER:

There are two new appointees, but they were not present at meeting. There were no officials present. There are two staff vacancies. There was no administering of oath of office.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the March 28, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved.

UPDATE ON EMOTIONAL SUPPORT ANIMALS

Attorney Richard Boulden provided legislative update on two bills that regulates the certification of ESA animals. The House passed. The Senate must vote.

UPDATE ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING & LOCAL HRC'S REPORT

Program Manager Gene Troy informed the commission that April is Fair Housing Month. He also provided an update on the various city-wide meetings and trainings attended and topics of discussion.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion on getting a digital copy of HRC Bylaws for Commissioners for review - Commissioner Stearns will look into. Discussion on the Governor's Committee for Attendance and Executive Order 34 - nothing has changed and is on hold unless it needs to be revisited. Discussed HRC Badges - need to follow up with the process of obtaining badges. Discussed fair housing intake - Phillip Jordan briefly discussed jurisdictional intake process; Commissioner suggested HUD training of the intake tenant process for the next meeting; Chairman Romain brought up training for Commissioners for upcoming training events in possibly Washington and Chicago and wanted something set up by June 15th. Fair Housing Proclamation was sent to Local Commissioners.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Subcommittees did not meet prior to meeting. Commissioner Mathay updated on May 16, 2019 call with committee on HUD training, conferences, and recovery and resilience. Chair Romain will follow up regarding Chair for Subcommittee on Education. Chair Romain will meet with Panthers on Employment Expungement Program, as well as, Fifth Third Bank.

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney Boulden discussed email complaint: North Carolina Coalition for Israel, et al v. City of Durham, et al. Will scan email to commissioners. Commissioner Stevenson made a motion that in response, the complaint and allegations will be investigated further to decide what further steps need to be taken. Commissioner Norman seconded it. Chair Romain, Commissioners Steven and Norman will collect information for discussion to present at next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 1:21 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Commission is Thursday, July 25, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Sharesa Wilkins, Human Relations Specialist

Minutes approved by the Human Relations Commission:
Toussaint Romain, Commissioner (Presiding Chair)