

MINUTES OF MURRAY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

October 16, 2023

4:00 P.M.

The Murray Human Rights Commission met in regular session on Monday, October 16, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Chair Dr. S.G. Carthell presiding.

Members Present: Chair Dr. S.G. Carthell, Charley Allen-Dunn, Dr. Peggy Munke, Dr. Kevin Spengler, Mignon Rutledge (entered at 4:13 P.M.), and Althia Caldwell.

Members Absent: Linda Cherry and Cui Liu

Staff Present: Kim Miles and Rakov Aetherus

Council Members Present: Rose Ross, Dr. Bonnie Higginson, and Dr. Terry Strieter.

Chair Dr. Carthell called the meeting to order at 4:10 P.M. and welcomed the Commissioners and guests.

Old Business

The minutes of September 18, 2023 were presented for approval.

Althia Caldwell moved to accept the minutes; seconded by Charley Allen-Dunn. All members present voted Aye. Motion carried.

Chair's Report

Old Business

Dr. S.G. Carthell stated in the last meeting he appointed a sub-committee to review the Human Rights Ordinance; Charley Allen-Dunn was the head of this committee. The sub-committee made a few recommended changes to present to the Human Rights Commission, which was emailed to each member to review. This draft did include a Public Accommodations section. Dr. S.G. Carthell stated the next step would require a motion by the Commission; it would then go to Mayor Rogers, City Administrator, and Mr. Hopkins for review.

Dr. Peggy Munke made a motion to proceed with sending the document for review; seconded by Charley Allen-Dunn. Chair Dr. Carthell called for a Roll Call Vote.

Ayes: Dr. Peggy Munke, Althia Caldwell, Dr. S.G. Carthell, Dr. Kevin Spengler, and Charley Allen-Dunn.

Nays: None

Mignon Rutledge entered after the vote.

Dr. S.G. Carthell opened the floor to Catie Bates, president of West KY NOW. Catie Bates stated the local Pride event was a success. The event took place in the Murray Calloway County Park

where members of the community had an opportunity to show support in favor of updating the Human Rights Ordinance. Let the record show thirty-three (33), West KY NOW notecards were signed and have been recorded.

New Business

Dr. Peggy Munke spoke on behalf of a Human Rights Commissioner who was not present, regarding community members on disability who need certain services that are not available to them. Dr. Peggy Munke stated for many people this is a serious issue. These services range from affordable housing, public transportation, medical coverage, and many other services could be included. Charley Allen-Dunn stated she agreed this is something that needs to be looked into. Dr. S.G. Carthell stated he would make this an agenda item.

Dr. S.G. Carthell presented the Commissioners with possibly changing the time of meetings to 4:30 due to the fact many of the Commissioners have trouble meeting at 4:00 P.M... The Commissioners agreed 4:30 P.M. would be a more favorable time.

Dr. Peggy Munke made a motion to present the time change to Council; seconded by Mignon Rutledge. All members present voted Aye.

Dr. S.G. Carthell and Dr. Peggy Munke will be working on a Veterans event to take place during the December meeting. Dr. Kevin Spengler will work on possible donations for refreshments.

Reminders

Chair Dr. S.G. Carthell reminded the Commission that the next meeting would be November 13, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

With no further business before the Commission, **Dr. Kevin Spengler moved to adjourn; seconded by Althia Caldwell. All members present voted aye.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.