



JHRC COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, May 10, 2014

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Attending:	William "Casey" Bulgin	Rocelia Roman de Gonzalez
	Mario E. Decunto	Nathan Rousseau, Ph.D.
	Leonardo del Rosario, M.D.	Walette M. Stanford
	Crystal Freed, Esq.	Michael B. Stoval, Jr.
	Sammy Miller	Michael Wachholz
	Kenneth "Ken" Middleton	Cindy Watson
	Daniel "Dan" O'Connor	Dottie Wilson
Commissioners Absent:	Parvez Ahmed, Ph.D.	
	Victoria Bryant-Riggins, PharmD	
Staff Attending:	Charlene Taylor Hill, Executive Director	Roberto Ortiz, Sr. Equal Opportunity Specialist
	Linda Grant-Hunter, Asst. Director	Joan Dolbear, Executive Secretary II

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Walette Stanford, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

II. Moment of Silence/Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Stanford called for a moment of silence and led the Commissioners in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Dan O'Connor to approve the summary of the Meeting Minutes from May 13, 2014. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ken Middleton. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Public Comment

There were no Public Comments.

V. Old Business

A. 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

Ms. Hill stated that the event will take place on Wednesday, July 2, 2014. The reception will take place at 5:30 p.m. in the Atrium of City Hall followed by the presentation at 6:15 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located on the first floor of City Hall. Elected officials Senator Bill Nelson, U.S. Representative Ander Crenshaw and Corrine Brown have been invited to make comments. An invitation has been extended to Federal Judge Brian J. Davis to be Keynote Speaker.



A short video highlighting local civil rights leaders and activists will be shown and music of the civil rights era will be performed. The major portions of the civil rights act will be highlighted and displayed in the atrium.

Activities in the Jacksonville libraries will start after July 2nd with book club readings, displays, newsletter articles, etc.; all pertaining to the civil rights era. Public schools will also be involved in civil rights era activities. The Friends of Study Circles will hold community dialogue forums during the fall on the subject of immigration issues and voter rights. A small event on the universal Declaration of Human Rights Day on December 10th will culminate the activities on the civil rights era.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Employment Committee

Commissioner Michael Stoval reported that going forward the committee will concentrate on human health issues, PTSD in the workplace and wage theft.

B. Housing & Public Accommodation Committee

Commissioner Victoria Bryant-Riggins, Committee Chair, reported on the following topics:

1. Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice

The committee discussed the lack of affordable housing in Jacksonville; particularly as it relates to persons with disabilities and the aging population.

2. Visitability

The committee discussed moving forward on recommending a visitability ordinance, which would make single family homes more accessible.

3. Feasibility of Conducting a Housing Discrimination Audit

The committee is interested in conducting a Housing Discrimination Audit. David Cronin, Esq., at Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, attended the committee meeting to discuss funding. Grants will be available in June and may be available for this audit. Mr. Cronin will report back to Ms. Hill.

A motion was made by Commissioner Victoria Bryant-Riggins for a housing discrimination audit to be conducted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cindy Watson and passed unanimously.

4. Ability Housing Project in Springfield

Ability Housing has received funding to renovate a vacant building and turn it into housing for homeless veterans. The property is located in Springfield. The project is moving forward.

VII. Executive Director & Staff Report

Ms. Hill reported that the JHRC has submitted its budget for FY15.

Ms. Hill met with City Council President Bill Gulliford to provide an update on expanding the Commission's services to Clay County. The proposal will be discussed by the Florida Commission at their May Meeting. Ms. Hill also talked to Council President Gulliford about the lack of



accessible housing for the disabled. He seemed interested in the topic of visitability, especially, the cost of building a accessible unit vs. retrofitting.

Ms. Hill has scheduled a meeting with Jeff Will, Ph.D., from the North East Florida Center for Community Initiatives at UNF to discuss conducting research in the area of accessible housing for persons with disabilities and visitability. Research is needed for the City Council to support a visitability ordinance in Jacksonville.

VIII. Chair's Report

Commissioner Walette Stanford, Chair, reported that the Fair Housing Festival on Saturday, April 26, 2014 was a wonderful event. Seven Commissioners attend and were presented with awards. The workshops were informative.

IX. Announcements

Monday, June 2, 2014 @ 10:00 a.m. Housing and Public Accommodation Committee Meeting
Tuesday, June 3, 2014 @ 10:30 a.m.Employment Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 5, @ 11:30 a.m. Community Relations Committee Meeting
Tuesday, June 10, 2014 @ 11:30 a.m.Executive Committee Meeting
Tuesday, June 10, 2014 @ 12:00 p.m. Commission Meeting

X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.



Upcoming Events

JHRC SPONSORED EVENTS		
Date/time/Location	Event	Contact
JHRC SUPPORTED EVENTS		
Date/Time/Location	Event	Contact
COMMUNITY EVENTS		
Date/Time/Location	Event	Contact
Thursday, May 22, 2014 Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront Hotel Reception – 6:00 p.m. Dinner & Program 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	2014 OneJax Humanitarian Award Honorees	OneJax 904.620.1JAX (1529)