

MINUTES OF MURRAY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

August 10, 2015

4:00 P.M.

The Murray Human Rights Commission met in regular session on Monday, August 10th, at 4:00 p.m. in City Hall's Council Chambers of City Hall with Chair Jody Cofer Randall presiding.

Members Present: Chair Jody Cofer Randall, Paula Compton, Dr. Peggy Pittman-Munke, Jane Shoemaker, Linda Cherry, Jessica Evans, Doris Saunders

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: June Batts

Chair Cofer Randall welcomed members and guests and called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Old business:

The Minutes of July 13, 2015, were presented for approval **Ms. Shoemaker moved; seconded by Dr. Pittman-Munke.** All members present were in favor of the motion.

Chair Cofer Randall stated an email had been sent to Mayor Rose on protocol for managing funding items (i.e. programming with a cost, sponsorships, etc.) and a Human Rights Commission line item in the next City of Murray fiscal budget to accommodate Commission activities/decisions that have a financial impact. She said she was notified that no funding amount had been included in the budget (by Council) for the current fiscal year. She said this development precluded the HRC's sponsorship of the 2015 Martin Luther King Jr. Annual Breakfast, as annual sponsorship of the event would be unfair to other diversity programs. Chair Cofer Randall and commissioners discussed the possibility of private funding, requesting a funding line item in the next fiscal City budget, and the mayor's discretionary budget. It was decided that Ms. Shoemaker and Ms. Cherry would speak with the Mayor about this issue given their dual roles on the Commission and Council.

Chair Cofer Randall stated no survey for board demographics was available and she would work on developing one this month.

New Business

Chair Cofer Randall stated she would accept nominations for the vice-chair position (to assist the chair and serve in the chair's absence). **Ms. Shoemaker (moved)** to nominate Commissioner Jessica Evans for the vice-chair position; **Ms. Saunders seconded** the nomination. Ms. Evans accepted the nomination. All members were in favor of the motion; Chair Cofer Randall and Ms. Evans abstained.

Chair Cofer Randall invited commissioners' input regarding a sex discrimination case against a local employer. She said, although the Commission had authority to accept the filings of such cases, she advised the claimant to file through the state Commission given the type issue. Members discussed the procedure for filing claims.

Chair Cofer Randall invited member issues. Dr. Pittman-Munke stated the Poverty Committee would discuss a pseudo reality job fair scenario and the development of a similarly themed game at the next meeting, which would be scheduled soon.

Ms. Saunders stated although the Douglass Homecoming attendance was lighter than usual, the event was successful and the Mayor and President Daviess were in attendance.

Commission members discussed the recent attempt of Calloway County High School students to form a gay-straight alliance (club), the difficulties faced by potential legitimate complainants experiencing subtle biases and micro aggressions, and complaints of a recent Trade Day vendor selling Confederate flags on City Park property.

With no further business before the Commission, **Ms. Shoemaker motioned to adjourn; seconded by Ms. Cherry.** All members voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.