



**JHRC Meeting
Tuesday, February 14, 2012
12:00 p.m.**

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present:

William "Casey" Bulgin
Cristina "Tina" Comstock
Leonard del Rosario, M.D.
Dane Grey (participated by phone)
Kenneth "Ken" Middleton
Yvonne McClain, Secretary
Michele L. A. Rollins, Esq., Vice Chair
Maria Taylor
Michael Wachholz, Chair
Dennis Wade
Cynthia "Cindy" Watson
Dottie Wilson

Commissioners Absent:

Parvez Ahmed, Ph.D.
Susan Harthill, Esq.
Daniel "Dan" O'Connor
Alvin G. White, P.h.D.

Staff Present:

Charlene Taylor Hill, Executive Director
Linda Grant-Hunter, Assistant Director
Michael Wedner, Esq., Deputy General Counsel
Wayne McGovern, EO/EA Specialist
Roberto Ortiz, Sr. Specialist Housing
Joan Dolbear, Executive Secretary

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Michael Wachholz, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

II. Moment of Silence

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Dottie Wilson to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2012 and seconded by Commissioner Dennis Wade. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Old Business

Commissioner William "Casey" Bulgin reported that Friends of Study Circles have organized under the Non-profit Center of NE Florida. More details will be forthcoming at the next meeting.



VI. New Business

No new business was reported.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Community Relations

Commissioner Dennis Wade, Committee Chair, reported that Commissioner Parvez Ahmed will be managing the Civil Discourse Project. In his absence, Charlene Taylor Hill, Executive Director, stated she attended a meeting with Michael Boylan, President, WJCT; Gary Saltsgiver, Facilities Marketing Director, WJCT; Frank Denton, Editor, Florida Times-Union and Commissioner Parvez Ahmed, Associate Professor, University of North Florida (UNF) to further discuss the project. The Florida Times-Union will host the on-line dialogue through its website; the JHRC will supply the issues and questions for the on-line website; WJCT will provide the video televised presentation and UNF will provide website back-end academic support (analyzing data obtained during comments on the website.)

Commissioner Dennis Wade met with Sheriff Rutherford to discuss the perception of the Jacksonville black community that they are not being treated fairly by the police, (as reported in JCCI Race Relations Progress Report. The Sheriff has agreed to establish a committee, including members of the community, to help address this issue and asked Commissioner Wade to join the committee and assist in finding other members. After further discussion, it was agreed that the Community Relations Committee would develop question to ask the Sheriff and invite him to attend a committee meeting.

B. Housing and Public Accommodations

There was no report.

C. Employment

Commissioner Yvonne McClain, Committee Chair, reported that the Employment Committee reviewed the meetings it had with Work Source and JTA regarding barriers to employment. In addition, the committee would like to meet with the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce. The goal is to have the three agencies meet to discuss ways to remove the current employment barriers.

D. Special Legislative Committee

Commissioner William "Casey" Bulgin, Committee Chair, stated the committee reviewed the resolution approved in November 2011 to recommend amending City ordinances (Employment, Housing and Public Accommodations) by adding sexual orientation and gender identity as a protected group. The resolution was signed by Commissioner Michael Wachholz, Chair, and has been delivered to a representative in the Mayor's office.

VIII. Executive Director & Staff Reports

A. Year-end Metrics and Trends

Wayne McGovern reviewed employment and housing metrics and trends for year-end FY11, see attachment.



Ms. Hill stated the JHRC was notified that it received a seventy-six thousand dollar (\$76,000) joint partnership grant from HUD and will partner with Jacksonville Area Legal Aid (JALA) to focus on housing for persons with disabilities and aging in place housing.

Ms. Hill, along with Commissioners Ken Middleton, Cindy Watson, Michael Wachholz and Dottie Wilson, attended a Hate Crimes Training sponsored by the U.S. Attorney General's Office for the Middle District of Florida.

MOSH has asked JHRC to serve on the planning committee for an exhibit that is coming to Jacksonville beginning in January 2013 entitled: "RACE: Are We So Different"?

- IX.** Chair's Report/Comments
There was no report from the Chair.
- X.** Announcements
- XI.** Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 1:16 p.m.