

JHRC Meeting Tuesday, April 10, 2012 12:00 p.m.

Commissioners

Present:

Parvez Ahmed, Ph.D. William "Casey" Bulgin

Cristina "Tina" Comstock Susan Harthill, Esq.

Yvonne McClain, Secretary

Michele L. A. Rollins, Esq., Vice

Chair

Walette M. Stanford

Maria Taylor

Michael Wachholz, Chair

Dennis Wade

Cynthia "Cindy" Watson

Dottie Wilson

Commissioners

Absent:

Leonard del Rosario, M.D.

Dane Grey

Kenneth "Ken" Middleton

Sherry L. Murray Daniel "Dan" O'Connor

Alvin G. White, Ph.D.

Staff Present:

Charlene Taylor Hill, Executive

Director

Linda Grant-Hunter, Assistant

Director

Mary Jarrett, Senior Assistant 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 meeting minutes of March 13, 2012 and seconded by Commissioner Michele L. A. Rollins. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Old Business

A. Friends of Study Circles

Commissioner William "Casey" Bulgin reported that Friends of Study Circles kickoff meeting was that evening, April 10, 2012, and invited all Commissioners to attend.

B. Hate Crime Coalition

Ms. Charlene Taylor Hill, Executive Director, stated the Hate Crime Working Group was scheduled for Thursday, April 26, 2012 at 12:00 p.m. in the Main Downtown Library Conference Center, Room G4. Mr. Will Daniels, U.S. Attorney's Office Middle District of Florida, will be in attendance to help organize the Jacksonville group.



VI. New Business

There was no new business discussed.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Community Relations Committee

Commissioner William "Casey" Bulgin, Committee Vice Chair, reported that a draft of the action plan for Civil Discourse Project was distributed and discussed.

B. Employment Committee

Commissioner Yvonne McClain, Committee Chair, reported that the committee is meeting with the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce at its next meeting and additional agencies regarding barriers to employment issues.

VIII. Executive Director & Staff Reports

Ms. Charlene Taylor Hill reported that a Public Accommodations Cause Finding was successfully conciliated. In addition to a monetary success, the respondent must go through training and a display sign in the restaurant's window stating service animals are welcome.

Ms. Hill stated she has attended budget meetings for the next fiscal year. Currently, the JHRC budget will remain flat.

Ms. Hill indicated It is the role of the Commission to be sure there is no antagonism and outbreaks between groups, i.e. create calm out of chaos. It is important that the JHRC work with the Sheriff's office to understand what is happening in the community and stay engaged. The two rallies attended by Ms. Hill and Ms. Linda Grant-Hunter, Assistant Director, in response to the Trayvon Martin incident were calm.

IX. Chair's Report/Comments

Commissioner Michael Wachholz asked the Commissioners to attend the 10th Annual Fair Housing Symposium on Saturday, April 21, 2012.

Commissioner Wachholz stated a list will be distributed to the Commissioners indicating which Council member the Commissioners will be asked to meet with. It is the goal to have the meetings completed by June 1, 2012.

Commission Wachholz engaged the Commissioners in an open conversation concerning ways the Commission could help during community unrest. The following thoughts were discussed:

- 1. Be aligned with the Mayor's Office and Sheriff's Office
- 2. Establish a process if there is unrest in the community
- 3. Give people and leaders an opportunity to communicate and vent
- 4. Study Circles facilitators can be used to help with the facilitation
- 5. Contact the Department of Justice for help
- 6. Communications for the JHRC is through Charlene Taylor Hill.



X. Announcements

Upcoming committee meeting dates were reviewed.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.