



Carbondale Human Relations Commission

Minutes – August 5, 2019
Carbondale Civic Center - 5:00pm

Commissioners Present: Anita Brown, Stephanie Brown, Dora Weaver, Karriem Shariati, Roger Webb, Michelle Snyder, Joseph Brown, Carla Childs

Commissioners (Excused):

Commissioners (Unexcused):

Guest Present: Elius Reed, Reverend Renard Wilson

SIU-C Dept. of Public Safety Representative: None

Study Circles Staff:

Staff Present: Deputy Chief Stan Reno, Commission Liaison Courtney Beverly

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:00p.m. by Chair Stephanie Brown

MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Michelle Snyder and seconded by Commissioner Anita Brown to approve the minutes from the July 1, 2019 meeting. Motion carried. All Voted Aye. Corrections: Further discussion led to having Building and Neighborhood Services and Supervisor John Lenzini to set up a display table of housing rental information in front of the City Hall Revenue Office and Parking Services Department.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Weaver announced that on August 8, 2019 at the Carbondale Civic Center the NAACP and Black Graduate Greek Council will present a “Youth Survival Program”, which will begin at 6p.m.

Mr. Elius Reed announced that the NAACP, Concerned Citizens of Carbondale and The Environmental Climate Justice Committee will meet to discuss the solar farm project on August 5, 2019 located at New Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Carbondale, Illinois.

Commissioner Weaver announced that on August 6, 2019 the Volunteer Deputy Voter Registrar Training will be located at the Administrative Office within the Carbondale Elementary School District No. 95 beginning at 5p.m.

Chair Stephanie Brown announced to the Commission that she was appointed as the new Chair for the Human Relations Commission.

OLD BUSINESS

The Human Relations Commissioners discussed the upcoming Human Relations Commission Annual Retreat which is scheduled after the September 9, 2019 Human Relations Commission meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

None To Report

ISSUES

None To Report

Public Education/HRC Website

None To Report

Public Forums/Events

None To Report

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Elius Reed mentioned about the local Carbondale businesses that are for sale or closing on the Carbondale Strip.

Mr. Reed announced that SIUC was awarded \$138 million from the Illinois Capital Bill. Mr. Reed explained that the funds would be used to renovate the Communications Building and other maintenance on campus. Further discussion led to Commissioner Snyder to explain to Mr. Reed the process and timeframe on when SIUC will receive the funds from the Capital Bill.

Mr. Reed mentioned that the SIUC Fall 2019 enrollment has decrease. Further discussion led to Mr. Reed suggested that recruitment for SIU should have been available during the 2019 Black Alumni Group Reunion.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner Anita Brown mentioned that she has met with representatives from the Dispute Resolution Institute of Murphysboro, Illinois and suggested to the Commission about sending an invitation for the institute to visit and present during a Human Relation Commission meeting.

Chair Stephanie Brown mentioned to the Commission on why she joined the Human Relations Commission. Chair Brown further discussed that she wants to help the community and give a voice to the community.

Commissioner Shariati mentioned to the Commission about updating the Human Relations Commission brochure and receiving corrected Human Relations Commission meeting minutes.

PROCESS ASSESSMENT

Human Relations Commission Housing Subcommittee

Commissioner Shariati mentioned that the SIU Student Commissioner Yahaira Heller has relocated from Illinois to continue her studies in Graduate School. Commissioner Shariati suggested that the Housing Subcommittee wait until a new SIU Student Commissioner is appointed to the Human Relations Commission.

Commissioner Shariati further discussed that a display table of housing rental information will be in front of the City Hall Revenue Office and Parking Services Department with assistance from the Building and Neighborhood Services Department and Supervisor John Lenzini.

Sparrow Coalition Report

Commissioner Webb mentioned that a City of Carbondale Representative showed the Sparrow Coalition and Carbondale Interfaith Council the vacant Carbondale Police Department located on College Street which is a possible location for the Carbondale Emergency Warming Center.

Women For Change

None to Report

Neighborhood Action Group Report

None to Report

Non-Violent Carbondale Project Report

None to Report

Racial Justice Coalition

None to Report

Race Unity Group

Commissioner Weaver mentioned that the Race Unity Group has met over the summer. The Race Unity Group meetings are held every Tuesday beginning at 7pm located at the SIUC Newman Center.

Law Enforcement

Deputy Chief Stan Reno mentioned that the Carbondale Police Department participated in Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church “Back to School Bash”, which was held on August 3, 2019.

The Carbondale Elks Lodge will handout school supplies and free food to students and families for a back to school event.

Entry Level Police Officer exam will be held on September 12, 2019, information and dates are available on the Carbondale Police Department website.

Deputy Chief Reno announced The Citizens Police Academy classes which will begin in the fall of 2019. Dates and times will be announced at a later date.

Commissioner Snyder announced that on August 8, 2019 the Carbondale Police Department will be assisting with the Southern Illinois Wellness Question and Answer session on “How To Deescalate Patients With Dementia In A Crisis Situation”. The Dementia 360 Conference will be held on August 8, 2019 located at John A. Logan in the Robert L. Mees Center.

Items for City Council

None To Report

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting – September 9, 2019. There being no further business, Chair Stephanie Brown closed the meeting to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned

Recorded by Courtney Beverly _____