

**MINUTES OF MURRAY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**  
**February 9, 2015**  
**4:00 P.M.**

The Murray Human Rights Commission met in regular session on Monday, February 9, 2015, at 4:00 p.m. in City Hall's Council Chambers of City Hall with Chairperson Jody Cofer Randall presiding.

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

**Members Absent:** Doris Saunders

**Staff Present:** None

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

**Old business:**

Chair Cofer Randall discussed the Commission's vacancy with Mayor Rose, but a decision had yet to be made. Chair Cofer Randall indicated if members knew of any possible candidates for the position, they should submit their names as soon as possible.

The Minutes of January 12, 2014 were presented for approval. Two minor typos were corrected. **Ms. Shoemaker motioned** to accept the minutes as corrected; **seconded by Ms. Cherry**. All members present were in favor of the motion.

Chair Cofer Randall presented a draft Awareness document regarding proposed changes to the Human Rights Ordinance to educate the public and offer free training. The plan going forward was for the Awareness document to be edited and ready for distribution soon and training could be scheduled as early as April. It was stated that Chair Cofer Randall would lead the training session with the addition of an employment attorney/professional.

Members discussed participation, possible venues, and the participation of business leaders.

Chair Cofer Randall anticipated a six-month time frame for educating the public on the proposed ordinance changes at which time the Mayor and Council would be expected to participate in the discussion/amendment process.

Commission members discussed the proposed revised Human Rights Ordinance and elements necessary to the revision (hearings, mediation, and penalties).

Chair Cofer Randall stated, given the population, one complaint every two years could be expected of which one tenth would result in a full investigation. Chair Cofer Randall requested members read the Awareness document and make suggestions for additions/revisions.

Chair Cofer Randall and the Commission tabled the Issue Based Hearings until further notice to allow time to focus on other priorities such as poverty and revision of the ordinance.

**New business:**

The Commission presented a framed resolution of appreciation to former Mayor Bill Wells for his support and work with the Human Rights Commission.

Chair Cofer Randall shared having spoken with Mayor Rose about the diversity of City boards and commissions as well as City personnel (management).

Chair Cofer Randall reminded Members of the next scheduled meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup>. Members were reminded of upcoming diversity events:

Black Heritage Celebration (Free Admission)

- National African American Read-in – February 9, 2015 5:00 p.m.

MSU Curris Center Tennessee Room

- Cinema International: *Long Walk to Freedom* – February 19-21, 2015 7:00 p.m.

MSU Curris Center Theater

MSU LGBT Programming Film Series (Free Admission)

- *The Case Against 8* - March 2, 2015 7:30 p.m.

MSU Curris Center Barkley Room

- *Pariah* - March 9, 2015 7:30 p.m.

MSU Curris Center Theater

- *deepsouth* – March 30, 2015 7:00 p.m.

MSU Curris Center Theater

With no further business before the Commission, **Dr. Pittman-Munke motioned to adjourn; seconded by Ms. Shoemaker.** The meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.