

MINUTES OF MURRAY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

July 13, 2015

4:00 P.M.

The Murray Human Rights Commission met in regular session on Monday, July 13th, 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, Dr. Peggy Pittman-Munke, Jane Shoemaker, Linda Cherry, Jessica Evans, Doris Saunders

Members Absent: Paula Compton, Linda Cherry

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 June 8, 2015, were presented for approval **Dr. Pittman-Munke moved; seconded by Ms. Shoemaker**. 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 there would be a funding update at the August meeting.

Dr. Pittman-Munke stated the Committee on Poverty would meet in August with Ginny Harper, Home Extension Agent and coordinator of the Reality Fair for local High School and Jr. High students, to develop a game scenario for late elementary students regarding success in the job market.

Dr. Pittman-Munke presented a report on a recent Kentucky Commission on Human Rights conference on fair housing and education. She said one main take away from the event was that new housing areas should be planned to integrate different classes and economic groups to enrich the educational process for all. She said this could be achieved through the planning and permitting process.

New Business

Chair Cofer Randall stated she and Dr. Pittman-Munke attended a KCHR event concerning a review of Fair Housing on college campuses. She said Murray State was recognized for the progressive steps taken. Chair Cofer Randall presented the KCHR and Lexington Fair Housing Council 2015 HUD Partnership Grant Findings which tested nineteen counties in the state (half failed). She said the study targeted real estate companies with respect to accommodation of disabilities--specifically support animals--and the real estate agency in Calloway that was part of the study failed. She said the state agency planned to follow up with the real estate agency in Calloway regarding other disability issues which may result in the filing of a future claim. She said other realtors in Murray could be tested upon request and asked members if they wanted to make that request and take an educational role (regarding fair housing) for realtors in the community. Members discussed the potential for further testing and training involved. Chair Cofer Randall stated she would send members the findings through email, and asked members to consider what areas should be addressed through anonymous testing.

Chair Cofer Randall requested to move agenda items 3(c) and 3(d) to the August agenda when absent members would hopefully be present. She also informed members that diversity statistics for city board/commission membership was not available. She said a survey would be developed and distributed to commission/board chairs who can then gather the needed data. She said she would make a recommendation to the mayor to add questions regarding age, race, sex and disability status to the board/commission application process.

Ms. Saunders stated the Douglass Homecoming would take place July 30 – August 1st and Mayor Rose and Judge Elkins would attend. She said she would send information regarding admission tickets to Commission members.

Chair Cofer Randall invited Commission members to the ADA Proclamation signing on Wednesday, July 15, 2015.

With no further business before the Commission, **Dr. Pittman-Munke motioned to adjourn; seconded by Ms. Shoemaker.** All members voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.