

MINUTES OF MURRAY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
December 14, 2015
4:00 P.M.

The Murray Human Rights Commission met in regular session on Monday December 14, 2015, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall with Chair Jody Cofer Randall presiding.

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

Members Absent: None

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 November 9, 2015, were corrected and presented for approval. **Ms. Shoemaker moved; seconded by Vice Chair Evans.** All members present were in favor of the motion. Chair Cofer Randall abstained.

Dr. Munke indicated the Committee on Poverty was still awaiting resources from Ginny Harper, Calloway County Extension Agent. She said the Committee would go ahead with the program they prepared for the Main Street Youth Program.

Chair Cofer Randall said she would follow up with Verizon regarding the Red Flag Campaign, and Ms. Evans would follow up with Chief Liles.

New Business

Chair Cofer Randall asked members for input regarding planning topics/activities for 2016. She said possible issues might include immigration or the Human Rights Ordinance update. Members suggested religious tolerance, poverty in families with children, the Human Rights Ordinance.

Chair Cofer Randall said she was contacted by the state Commission on Human Rights requesting information regarding local Commissions' activities for MLK, Jr. Day and the upcoming spring. She said she was only aware of many activities surrounding MLK, Jr. Day activities on the Murray State campus and would like to host an activity independent of the university.

Dr. Munke suggested contacting the local theater for a free video showing. Members discussed outreach to Cheri Theater for an MLK, Jr. Day program. The idea of hosting a signature event for the HRC such as a community reception or gala possibly with speakers, etc. The primary focus of this event would be to increase visibility and community dialogue regarding Human Rights.

Chair Cofer Randall said it would be good to theme the signature event around the enactment of the original Human Rights Ordinance or other important date. She also said Commissioner's authorship of some op-ed pieces for the local paper would be a way to increase community interest/awareness in Human Rights issues.

Members discussed the Commission vacancy. Chair Cofer Randall said she would prompt Calloway County for an appointment.

Chair Cofer Randall said the next HRC meeting was scheduled for January 11, 2016, and upcoming events included the MLK, Jr. Day Breakfast on January 18th. Chair Cofer Randall indicated she would send an email to Commission members about the time of the breakfast. Chair Cofer Randall also indicated that the Presidential Lecturer at Murray State this year is Martin Luther King III. That lecture is in February and she would have additional information at the January meeting.

Ms. Saunders added an African American Reading was scheduled for February 15th.

With no further business before the Commission, **Ms. Shoemaker motioned to adjourn; seconded by Dr. Pittman-Munke.** All members voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.