

MINUTES OF MURRAY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

September 14, 2015

4:00 P.M.

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

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Cathy Morris

Chair Cofer Randall welcomed members and guests and called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

Old business

The minutes of August 10, 2015, were presented for approval **Dr. Pittman-Munke moved; seconded by Ms. Cherry.** All members present were in favor of the motion.

Chair Cofer Randall stated that the information for the demographics of the commission and boards had not been received and will be discussed at another meeting.

Ms. Shoemaker entered the meeting at 4:06 p.m.

Chair Cofer Randall asked for discussion regarding the committee on Poverty. It was reported by Ms. Cherry and Dr. Pittman-Munke that the committee was working with Ginny Harper to find the New Hampshire curriculum either free or low cost. A Lesson Plan from Poverty Committee was distributed to the commission to develop a game that centers around the child's destination by building a road map with target groups of children at Main Street Youth, West Kentucky Mentoring, the Boys' and Girls' Homes, and Calloway County Alternative School.

New Business

Chair Cofer Randall recognized Abigail French, Director, from Murray State University's Women's Center. Ms. French provided an overview of the Red Flag campaign that Murray State University will be starting in October. The campaign focuses on education of health and unhealthy relationships in addition to bystander intervention strategies. A handout page was provided to commission members. Ms. French also informed the commission regarding a cell phone drive community project by Verizon called HopeLine that provides emergency phones to victims of abuse. Several ideas of community partners were shared by commission members: Merryman House, young adult church groups, high schools, the Young Professionals Group, Murray State's international students, hair dressers, Sr. citizen's center, and School Resource Officers. Chair Cofer Randall and Ms. Evans agreed to split up contacting resources for

the Verizon HopeLine project and to explore hosting a Town Hall meeting on domestic violence training. Dr. Pittman-Munke suggested asking the Lion's, Kiwanis, or Rotary clubs to sponsor the meeting.

Ms. Cherry exited the meeting.

Chair Cofer Randall explained that the discussion of Proposed Panhandling Ordinance was on hold at the City Council level due to some recent court cases that have overturned these types of ordinances. She distributed a handout of Federal Courts Declare Solicitation Ordinances Unconstitutional and requested the commission members read up on the topic to determine if they want to make a statement or position. Dr. Pittman-Munke suggested the creation of a bookmark that could be distributed to the public that contains the community resources that are available to help those that are homeless or hungry.

Chair Cofer Randall informed the commission that Dr. Pittman-Munke, Ms. Evans, and Chair Cofer Randall would be attending the KCHR Fair Housing Training in Paducah on September 17 and would report back to the commission at their next meeting.

With no further business before the Commission, **Ms. Shoemaker motioned to adjourn; seconded by Ms. Evans.** All members voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.