



APPROVED

**CITY OF YPSILANTI
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, April 25, 2016
7:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Krista Nordberg	Present
Jennifer Symanns	Present
Sue Melke	Absent
Theresa Saunders	Absent
John Shuler	Present
Tanasia Morton	Present

II. AGENDA APPROVAL

Commissioner Symanns requested the Indigenous Peoples Day Proclamation be moved to the top of the agenda.

Commissioner Symanns moved, seconded by Commissioner Nordberg to approve the agenda.

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the agenda was approved as amended.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

– March 28, 2016

Commissioner Shuler asked for a grammatical change to the minutes.

Commissioner Nordberg moved, seconded by Commissioner Morton, to approve the minutes as amended.

On a voice vote the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/COMMISSION RESPONSE

None

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

— Indigenous People Day Proclamation.

Commissioner Symanns stated the Mayor brought this to the attention of the HRC some months ago and there has been debate on the language of the resolution and if the Indigenous Peoples Day should be held in October or November. She said the original plan was to have Indigenous Peoples Day by held on the second Monday in October replacing Columbus Day which would be a symbolic gesture. However, there is concern how this might affect the Italian and Catholic Communities in Ypsilanti and November is nationally recognized as Native American Month.

Commissioner Nordberg stated she is in favor of replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day.

Commissioner Symanns responded she understands the symbolism in replacing Columbus Day but she likes how the day could tie in with other activities in the City during November.

Commissioner Shuler stated he believes replacing Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples Day would go against the mission of the HRC which is to bring communities together in a positive way.

Commissioner Symanns responded she agrees this resolution should be positive and is more interested in building up Indigenous Peoples Day rather than tearing down Columbus Day.

Commissioner Shuler stated he appreciates the argument for replacing Columbus Day and could support Indigenous Peoples Day falling on the second Monday in October if it acknowledges Columbus Day as a National Holiday.

Commissioner Nordberg asked why that is necessary.

Commissioner Shuler responded to illustrate that Indigenous Peoples Day is not replacing Columbus Day they just will fall on the same day.

Commissioner Nordberg stated it feels a little apologetic and that the HRC is not willing to take a stand.

Commissioner Shuler responded he does not want to take a stand against Columbus Day.

Commissioner Symanns asked if everything referring to Columbus Day should be removed since it is not celebrated in Ypsilanti. She asked if the 2nd Monday in October is an acceptable date if the language in the resolution is amended.

Commissioner Nordberg asked the resolution read Columbus Day is celebrated by "some" rather than "many".

Commissioner Shuler responded he could agree with that change.

Commissioner Morton asked to remove the six whereas and keep the last whereas.

Commissioner Symanns asked if everyone could agree to those changes.

Commissioner Symanns moved, seconded by Commissioner Morton to forward this resolution to City Council with amendments.

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the resolution was approved and will be forwarded to City Council.

— Revised Police Complaint Form Approval.

Commissioner Shuler stated he removed sections from the old Police Complaint Form and said the police department can still use part of the form internally.

Commissioner Symanns asked if Commissioner Shuler had spoken with Council Member Robb about making the edits to the form discussed during the March meeting.

Commissioner Shuler responded he had not.

Commissioner Symanns asked if the complaint form and the policy should be brought to the May meeting with the agreed upon adjustments.

Commissioner Shuler responded in the affirmative.

Commissioner Nordberg asked how it would be possible to keep a person anonymous when submitting a complaint to the police given what the policy states.

Commissioner Symanns replied the policy only governs how the Police Department responds to a complaint.

Commissioner Nordberg stated the policy and the form are not currently compatible.

Commissioner Shuler suggested creating a policy governing how staff outside the Police Department responds to a complaint.

— Revised Ypsilanti Police Department Policy 16 Approval.
— Discrimination Clause.

Commissioner Shuler requested this item be tabled until a subcommittee is formed to review the current clause to examine possible changes regarding undocumented residents.

Commissioner Symanns moved, seconded by Commissioner Nordberg, to table the Discrimination Clause.

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the Discrimination Clause was tabled.

— Communication Policy.

Commissioner Shuler stated this item was something former Commissioner Elmgren was researching and since he is no longer with the Commission he requested this item be permanently removed from the agenda.

Commissioner Morton moved, seconded by Commissioner Nordberg, to permanently remove the Communication Policy from future agendas.

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the item was permanently removed from the agenda.

VII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/COMMISSION RESPONSE

None

VIII. PROPOSED BUSINESS

- Revised Police Complaint Form.
- Revised Ypsilanti Department Policy 16 Approval.
- Discrimination Clause.

VIV. NEXT MEETING DATE

- May 23, 2016

X. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Nordberg moved, seconded by Commissioner Morton to adjourn the meeting.

On a voice vote, the motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.