



**Meeting Agenda
City of Ypsilanti
Human Relations Commission
Regular Meeting
City Council Chambers - One South Huron St.
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Wednesday, May 8, 2019, 7:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Commissioner Browning
Commissioner Choudhuri
Commissioner Fellows
Commissioner Gaines
Commissioner Hagenhauer
Commissioner Hicks
Commissioner Hunter
Commissioner Jones-Darling

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. April 10, 2019

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/COMMISSION RESPONSE

VI. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- New Commissioner Welcome Packet.
- Budget Request
- Historic Trauma Archive
- Evaluation of Immigration-Solicitation Ordinance
- HRC Terms, Term Limits and Responsibilities

VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/COMMISSION RESPONSE

IX. PROPOSED BUSINESS

X. NEXT MEETING DATE:

June 12, 2019

XI. ADJOURNMENT



MINUTES

**City of Ypsilanti
Human Relations Commission
Regular Meeting
City Council Chambers - One South Huron St.
Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Wednesday, April 10, 2019, 7:00 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

Commissioner Browning	Absent
Commissioner Choudhuri	Present
Commissioner Fellows	Present
Commissioner Gaines	Present (7:15pm)
Commissioner Hicks	Present
Commissioner Hunter	Present
Commissioner Jones-Darling	Present

Elize Jekabson – DDA Coordinator and Public Engagement Specialist introduced herself. She will be sitting in for Andrew Hellenga as secretary during transition of staff.

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

Offered By: Commissioner Choudhuri; Seconded By: Commissioner Hunter
Approved: Yes – 5; No – 0; Absent – 1 (Gaines)

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. March 13, 2019

Offered By: Commissioner Fellows; Seconded By: Commissioner Choudhuri
Approved: Yes – 5; No – 0; Absent – 1 (Gaines)

V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/COMMISSION RESPONSE

Councilman Steven Wilcoxon Ward 2 – Tried to attend a previous meeting but the commission did not reach quorum. He plans to visit the commission on a regular basis on an unofficial capacity. Looks forward to see what the group does.

Commissioner Fellows thanked Steven Wilcoxon for attending and for bringing up the failed quorum date. The commission has been meaning to talk to councilmen about issues reaching quorum. The commission is down three commissioners and the vacancies have been open for a while.

Andrew Hellenga informed the commission that there has been a nomination for George Hagenaur and the nomination is scheduled for this coming Tuesday.

VI. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Fellows sits on the Housing Affordability and Accessibility Committee. Public input session is on May 2nd, 2019 at RAC 6:30-8:30. There will be a short presentation on what

they have done over the year, and solicitation of public feedback and and any information that they missed. Invited the Commissioners to attend. It is worth noting that most of the data collected has been through the survey. There is meaningful information in the survey, but has demographic issues.

Commissioner Fellows spoke about the Welcome Packet committee that met last week.

Commissioner Hicks and Commissioner Browning also attended the meeting. The packet is on the agenda, so discussions about it can wait until then.

VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

— Commission Bylaws.

Communication from the City Attorney was handed out to all commissioners in regards to the immediate effects section of the bylaws. He stated that it is up to the commission's preference noting that the majority of members could be three or as in other parts of the bylaws it says four is the majority to pass.

Discussion ensued about changing the majority of member to three vs. four.

Commissioner Fellows stated that four is in line with the rest of the document and it really shows Council that the commission cannot function unless they have unanimous voting.

Motion to change majority vote from five votes to four votes to go into immediate effect.

Offered By: Commissioner Fellows; Seconded By: Commissioner Hicks

Approved: Yes – 6; No – 0; Absent – 0

— New Commissioner Welcome Packet.

Youth members don't have information given to them when they join the commission and it has created an accessibility barrier.

The committee revisited Council statements about youth membership, and reviewed and edited outreach to youth flyer. This flyer would be posted around the high school and there will possibly setting up a table during lunch with information at Ypsi High.

Commissioner Fellows reported the conversation she had with Commissioner Browning about youth inclusivity and youth voting. Commissioner Browning liked being asked how he would have voted. Commissioner Fellows would like to look at re-opening youth voting in the future, as this commission is an advisory commission.

The Welcome Packet could include the a copy of the non-discrimination ordinance, a copy of condensed Roberts Rules, meeting schedule for the year, summary of responsibilities, most recent annual report, accommodations form questionnaire, and bios of current members. Questionnaire would ask about needs, accommodations, ride support etc.

Commissioner Fellows was interested in changing the bylaws to appoint a dedicated point person to follow up on accommodations, periodic check-ins outside the meetings and making sure the welcome packet is distributed.

Bylaws could state that the Welcome Packet include specific items, so future commissions know what to include.

Motion that it be noticed in the meeting minutes the intent of the Commission to amend Article 4.8 to insert after the period, *The officers of the commission shall be responsible for new member orientation*. To also notice in the minutes that after the period in Article 5.10 the following sentence be inserted - *The secretary of the commission shall furnish all new*

members of the commission with the commissions welcome packet which shall be prescribed by resolution of the commission.

Offered By: Commissioner Jones-Darling; Seconded By: Commissioner Fellows

Approved: Yes – 6; No – 0; Absent – 0

Motion to prescribe that the welcome packet include, a copy of the non-discrimination ordinance, a copy of condensed Roberts Rules, meeting schedule for the year, summary of responsibilities, most recent annual report, accommodations form questionnaire.

Offered By: Commissioner Fellows; Seconded By: Commissioner Choudhurri

Commissioner Jones-Darling pointed out that items in the motion are a little ambiguous. City Clerk Andrew Hellenga recommended to not approve what will be in the packet until the commission solidifies what is in the packet.

Commissioner Fellows withdraws the motion.

Support to withdraw the motion.

Offered By: Commissioner Jones-Darling; Seconded By: Commissioner Hunter

Approved: Yes – 6; No – 0; Absent – 0

Commissioners Hunter and Hicks offered Commissioner Fellows to help create the official welcome packet to present at the next meeting.

VIII. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/COMMISSION RESPONSE

IX. PROPOSED BUSINESS

Commissioner Choudhuri would like to revisit budget discussions and historical trauma.
Commissioner Fellows would like receive updates on commission applications
Commissioner Jones-Darling spoke about an online complaint for NDO violations. Send a notice to council stating that the commission wants them to review the ordinance that establishes the HRC, regarding youth members.

X. NEXT MEETING DATE:

May 8, 2019

XI. ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

ARTICLE V. - SOLICITATION OF IMMIGRATION STATUS

Sec. 58-200. - Statement of purpose.

It is the policy of the City of Ypsilanti to respect the rights of, and provide equal services to, all persons regardless of appearance, ethnicity, immigration status, manner of dress, national origin, physical characteristics, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression; to ensure the enforcement of rights under the United States Constitution, including due process and equal protection; to promote community safety; to encourage victims of crime and witnesses to cooperate with law enforcement authority without regard to immigration status; to prevent bias-based policing; and to promote acceptance. In order to permit members of immigrant communities to access services that are provided by the City of Ypsilanti government to which they are entitled; and to ensure that city public servants are acting consistent with federal law regarding local governments ~~cooperating with federal immigration authorities~~, the City of Ypsilanti enacts this article as an effective way to guide city public servants in adhering to rights under the United States Constitution, including due process and equal protection, and under federal law, while protecting the safety and health of all members of the Ypsilanti community.

(Ord. No. 1281, § 1, 2-7-2017)

Sec. 58-201. - Definitions.

Public servant means the mayor, members of the city council, the city clerk, any member of any city agency, board, commission, or other voting body that is established by the Ypsilanti City Charter or by this Code, and any appointee, any employee, or any individual who provides services to the City of Ypsilanti within or outside of its offices or facilities pursuant to a personal services contract.

(Ord. No. 1281, § 1, 2-7-2017)

Sec. 58-203. - Bias-based policing by public servants, who are police officers, on the basis of appearance, ethnicity, immigration status, manner of dress, national origin, physical characteristics, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression prohibited.

A public servant, who is a police officer, shall not exercise differential treatment of individuals in rendering police services based on a person's appearance, ethnicity, immigration status, manner of dress, national origin, physical characteristics, race, religious beliefs, or sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. A public servant, who is a police officer, shall not base reasonable suspicion for an investigative detention, probable cause for an arrest, or any other police action, on a person's appearance, ethnicity, immigration status, manner of dress, national origin, physical characteristics, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. A public servant, who is a police officer, may take into account the reported appearance, ethnicity, immigration status, manner of dress, national origin, physical characteristics, race, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression for the purpose of identifying a described individual.

(Ord. No. 1281, § 1, 2-7-2017)

Sec. 58-204. - Solicitation of immigration status by public servants, prohibited; exceptions.

(a) *Prohibited.* A public servant, while acting within the scope of public service employment and/or authority shall not:

- (1) Solicit information concerning immigration status for the purpose of ascertaining a person's compliance with federal immigration law; or

- (2) Solicit information for the purpose of determining immigration status from a person who is seeking police services, or is a victim, or is a witness; or
 - (3) Inquire into the immigration status of any person, or engage in activities for the purpose of ascertaining the immigration status of any person.
- (b) *Exceptions.* Notwithstanding the prohibitions set forth in subsection (a) of this section, public servants, are expressly permitted to engage in the following activities, which shall not constitute a violation of this article:
- (1) ~~Solicitation of information concerning immigration status when performing public safety functions while assisting federal law enforcement in the investigation of a criminal or civil offense; or~~
 - (2) ~~Solicitation of information concerning immigration status from the subject of an investigation only when relevant to the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense, or when processing an arrested person; or~~
 - (3) Solicitation of information concerning immigration status where specifically required by any federal, or state, ~~or city law or~~ program as a condition of eligibility for the service sought; or
 - (4) Solicitation of information concerning immigration status for the purpose of completing I-9 Forms, and, when relevant, in making hiring and payroll withholding decisions, including, but not limited to, completing I-9 Forms, questioning a person to complete the I-9 Form, obtaining documents that support the I-9 Form, and allowing federal authorities to audit an I-9 Form in accordance with law; or
 - (5) Solicitation of information concerning immigration status for a subpoena issued in a criminal proceeding, civil litigation, or an administrative proceeding for the production of city documents or for testimony of a public servant, including where related to immigration issues or other security issues.

(Ord. No. 1281, § 1, 2-7-2017)

Sec. 58-205. - Violations and penalties.

Where a public servant is alleged to have violated this article, the matter shall be referred, as appropriate, to the city council or to the department director or agency head, for review, investigation, and disposition. Any disciplinary action shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Ypsilanti City Charter and other laws, city personnel rules, civil service rules, union contracts, or other departmental or agency rules and regulations.

The city manager shall provide an annual report to city council of all violation complaints of this article and their disposition.

(Ord. No. 1281, § 1, 2-7-2017)

Sec. 58-32. - Creation; composition; term; voting.

- (a) There is hereby created a "human relations commission" to be appointed by the mayor with the approval of the city council. The human relations commission shall be composed of nine members, all city residents, one of whom shall be designated as chair to be selected by the mayor to serve until a new chair is elected by a majority of the human relations commission. Term of chair shall be one year. The term of members shall be ~~three~~ **five** years. The first members shall be appointed in groups of three for terms of one, two and three years, and thereafter the terms of ~~three~~ **two** members shall expire each year. **No person shall serve more than two terms without a three-year period intervening.** ~~Two additional, youth non-voting members may also be appointed, in addition to the nine regular voting members. The terms of the youth non-voting members shall be one year.~~
- (b) A quorum for conduct of the lawful business of the human relations commission shall be a majority of the current members.
- (c) Except as otherwise stated in this article, all actions and decisions of the human relations commission shall be by simple majority vote of those members present at a lawful meeting of the human relations commission.
- (d) The human relations commission shall insofar as possible reflect the diversity of the community.

(Ord. No. 820, § 1, 5-31-1995; Ord. No. 1285, § 1, 4-4-2017)