

MINNEAPOLIS COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS  
Commission Meeting MINUTES of Monday, February 27, 2012  
Minneapolis City Hall, Martin Luther King, Jr. Conference Room - 241  
350 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Minneapolis, MN

6:05 PM, Call to Order and Roll Call

Commissioners in Attendance: Lonnie Nichols, Patricia Nelson, Michelle Monteiro, Adosh Unni, Thomas Gallagher, Emily Froehle, Jennifer Thompson, Wendy Adler Robinson, Peter Larsen, Danielle Shelton Walczak, Terrance Noble, G. Christine Peters, John Oberreuter, Bernadette Casey, Marla Khan, Surya Rochel

Commissioners Absent: Cecelia Rodriguez-Melendez, Michael McHugh, Kenneth Fukuda

City Staff: Michael Browne, Carol Bachun, Lee Zutz, Johnnie Burns, Toni Newborn, Seema Desai

Guests: Chuck Turchick, Duane Koski

Approval of Agenda: Moved Monteiro and Approved by consensus

Approval January 23, 2012 MCCR minutes; Moved Monteiro and approved by consensus; Abstain Rochel, Khan, Casey.

Commissioners were elected to the following Officer positions for 2012:

Chair: Emily Froehle

Vice Chair: Jennifer Thompson

Treasurer: Bernadette Casey

Secretary: Lonnie Nichols

Commission on Civil Rights Committee Meeting Times and Chair Elections:

Contract Compliance: Chair McHugh, meets at 5:30 pm before Full Commission.

Public Relations & Education: Co-Chairs Khan and Casey, meets at 5:30 pm before Full Commission.

Standards & Procedures: Co-Chairs Gallagher and Nelson, meets at 5:30 pm on the second Monday of month (as scheduled) after the Executive Committee.

Executive Committee: composed of Commission Officers and (one or both) Committee Chairs meets the second Monday of the month at 5:00 pm.

Appeals Committee: composed of Commissioners as assigned, meets as scheduled to review civil rights complaints case files.

Same Sex Marriage Ban Research Task Force: ad hoc group of PR&E will meet as scheduled.

All meetings are currently scheduled for City Hall-Room 239 or 241.

#### Civil Rights Department Reports:

Michael Browne, Assistant Director (AD) provides report on Probable Cause (PC), No Probable Cause (NPC) and Dismissals, indicating that as of February 27, 2012, there are 83 case files pending resolution with the department. There are 6 cases being conciliated by the department: 12 current cases under review by the Commission; 0 PC, 5 NPC and 7 Dismissals. There were 78 cases 1-12 months age, 5 cases in the 13 – 30 month category and 0 cases was older than 31 months, with a total of 0 cases in the backlog. Any case over 365 days old is deemed to be in the backlog. AD Browne indicates that 160 cases have been contracted for the 2012 EEOC; and, that with the backlog low, cases can be assigned additional investigation by staff as needed.

#### Commission on Civil Rights Committee Reports:

Contract Compliance – McHugh absent, Thompson reports that CC participated in a DBE presentation at the MN Legal Bar Association workshop on February 10, 2012.

Public Relations and Education: Nelson reports that the Martin Luther King, Jr. essay winner awards were presented in front of the full City Council on Friday, January 27, 2012. Three Award winners will be forwarded to the State of MN Essay competition. A framework for a Community Service Award is under discussion, an On-Air presentation with KFAI radio is scheduled for May6, and Unni announces that the City Council passed a proclamation against the proposed constitutional amendment to ban same sex marriage; and further requests Assistant City Attorney Bachun to provide a legal opinion on whether any City resources can be used to coordinate advocacy efforts with other groups in opposition to said proposed constitutional amendment.

Standards and Procedures: Gallagher indicates there was no meeting, nothing to report.

Appeals Committee: Unni reports the committee is scheduled to meet on March 5, 2012.

League of Minnesota Human Rights Commission: Commissioner Nelson, no report.

Commission Chair report: Froehle indicates there will be more from Chair next meeting.

Public Comment: Chuck Turchick makes comments on the Civilian Review Authority and provides a hand out. Commissioner Nelson comments that copies of Health Connect: A Practical Guide to Community Outreach are available on the credenza tonight, first come, first serve, while supplies last.

Adjournment at 7:14 PM: Moved Monteiro; Second and Approval by consensus, no objections or abstentions.