

Frankfort Human Rights Commission  
February 7, 2023, 5:00 p.m.  
City Hall

Meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Kristie Powe. Present were Kristie Powe, Yolanda Diaz, Anita Collins, Bruce Brooks, Lisa Gabbard, and Katima McMillan was present via speaker phone. Fairness Officer Jason Hart was also present.

Two guests were present: Raymond Shields, prospective commissioner; and Michael Mueller, County Judge-Executive.

The December meeting minutes were approved. Motion was made by Kristie Powe and seconded by Bruce Brooks, with all voting in favor.

Jason Hart, Fairness Officer, discussed a case he had previously brought to the Commission. He informed the group that the citizen with the complaint and the emergency clinic involved have an informal mediation scheduled on February 23, 2023, via Zoom. Jason will drop into the call briefly but can't officially mediate. He believes the company, FastPace Health, will attend with lawyers, and because he feels there isn't sufficient evidence to prove discrimination in accommodations, that it would be waste of time and money to move forward, as the case would be dismissed.

It was noted that our Commission would keep records to see if this type of thing continues to happen. Bruce Brooks asked how record-keeping worked for our group. Jason Hart and Chermie Maxwell, City Clerk, do that job. Bruce wondered about the possibility of getting assistance for the Commission. Discussion was held around what could be done for someone who needs counsel, as Jason would not be able to provide that. Yolanda Diaz asked about citizenship requirements for receiving help from the Human Rights Commission, and it was stated that citizenship is not required to receive services from the HRC.

In Old Business, Kristie mentioned that the city budget is still under revision, and our Commission didn't receive all that we needed, but that we will order a banner, table cloth, and pamphlets. Discussion was held around what information is needed on the pamphlets, and Kristie asked that Commissioners send suggestions to her. In addition, she requested that members look at revisions to the HRC page on the city website and inform her of changes needed.

It was suggested that members and Jason provide ideas to Kristie for trainings with dates/times/cost included. Anita Collins mentioned the original training that was provided for the newly-created Commission, and the group wondered if it was possible to have the trainers return.

In New Business, the Commission reviewed a draft of a business card that will be created for our use. Discussion was held around the most helpful information to include. It was decided that we would use a Google Voice phone number and have only the [Fairness@Frankfort.ky.gov](mailto:Fairness@Frankfort.ky.gov) as the only email. In addition, we would like to include the URL to the HRC page on the city's website rather than having the homepage be listed.

Action items were reviewed, and Kristie indicated that she and Yolanda would be having a conversation with folks from the Frankfort Plant Board to learn about options for customers and others for whom English is a second language. Do they have bi-lingual staff or access to translators? Yolanda offered her church as a location to hold an “open house” for the community once we have our information pamphlets available.

There was discussion around the possibility of having more than one meeting per month, as needed. Kristie will speak with Chermie or others at City Hall and ask if having public Zoom meetings using the City’s account would be appropriate for any meetings beyond the initial one held each month.

In Upcoming Events, Lisa Gabbard mentioned Shop & Share on Saturday at all Kroger stores, benefitting local domestic violence shelters. Katima told the group of a Crown Act pep rally at the capitol rotunda on Wed., March 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:30. There will be an event at the Paul Sawyer Library on March 5<sup>th</sup>, hosted by Focus on Race Relations (FORR). Kristie indicated that the topic would be “Frankfort Remembers MLK’s Historic March on Frankfort”. Other events mentioned include an event at the Ky. Historical Society, a Juneteenth event on 6/17, hosted by FORR, Unity in the Community, also scheduled for June, and NAACP Frankfort Chapter annual event, to be held in May or June.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Kristie Powe made the motion to adjourn at 5:46 p.m. with a second from Katima McMillan, and all voted in favor.