



Carbondale Human Relations Commission

Minutes – March 6, 2023
Carbondale Civic Center - 5:00pm

Commissioners Present: Anita Brown, Gerald Edwards, Roy Mazuchowski, Roger Webb, Michelle Snyder, Stephanie Brown, Carmalita Cahill

Commissioners (Excused):

Commissioners (Unexcused): Carla Childs

Guest Present: Jackson County State’s Attorney Joseph Cervantez, Allie Moultrie

SIU-C Dept. of Public Safety Representative: None

Study Circles Staff: Sarah Heyer

Staff Present: Chief of Police Stan Reno, Deputy Chief Anthony Williams and Commission Liaison Courtney Beverly

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:05p.m. by Chair Stephanie Brown.

MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Anita Brown and seconded by Commissioner Mazuchowski to approve the minutes from the February 6, 2023 meeting. Motion carried. All Voted Aye.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None to Report

OLD BUSINESS

None to Report

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Brown mentioned the Human Relations Commission attendance requirement for the Commissioners.

ISSUES

None to Report

Public Education/Presentation

Commissioner Edwards introduced Jackson County State's Attorney Joseph Cervantez to the Human Relations Commission. Mr. Cervantez presented and discussed gun violence, prosecution of violent offenders and drug court. Mr. Cervantez also described in his presentation on how individuals are arrested and being processed, starting an investigations and jury trails. Lastly, Mr. Cervantez discussed solving violent crimes in Carbondale and describes the day-to-day operations of the Jackson County State's Attorney Office.

Commissioner Cahill enters the meeting at 5:18p.m.

Chair Brown mentioned to Mr. Cervantez if his office can provide press releases to the Human Relations Commission to share on their website. Chair Brown also discussed juvenile offenders, which led Mr. Cervantez to discuss the usage of the local juvenile detention centers for youth offenders.

Commissioner Cahill commented on domestic violence and individuals going to court, mental health and the transitions teams from mental health hospitals.

Chair Brown announced that the Governor of Illinois announced a push for mental health services.

Allie Moultrie mentioned to Mr. Cervantez about work release programs for juveniles. Mr. Cervantez responded that there is a Restorative Justice Program for youth offenders.

For more information, please contact Jackson County State's Attorney Joseph Cervantez or visit www.explorecarbondale.com.

Public Forums/Events

None to Report

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None to Report

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Chair Brown mentioned the attendance and meeting cancellation policy to the Human Relations Commissioners.

PROCESS ASSESSMENT

Sparrow Coalition Report

Commissioner Webb announced that the Sparrow Coalition meeting will be held on March 7, 2023 beginning at 9 a.m. through Zoom. If anyone is interested in attending the meeting, please contact Roger Webb at rowebb@hotmail.com or sparrowcarbondale@gmail.com.

Free Laundry Day will be held at the First Presbyterian Church in Carbondale on March 8th beginning at 10a.m. until 2p.m.

Non-Violent Carbondale Project Report

None to Report

Neighborhood Action Group Report

Sarah Heyer announced that the Women League of Voters of Jackson County will host a forum for candidates for the City of Carbondale City Council race on March 7th beginning at 6:30p.m.

Sarah Heyer mentioned the Neighborhood Action Group meeting discussed Community Housing Trust, selections of Board Members and Directors. The Neighborhood Alliance Group meetings are available to watch on YouTube.

Sarah Heyer announced a new experiment called the Business Guarantee Income Program, which is being manage in Evanston, Illinois. Follow-ups on the experiment are being oversee by Northwestern University.

Sarah Heyer updated the Human Relations Commission on the Neighborhood Notification program.

Racial Justice Coalition

None to Report

Race Unity Group

None to Report

Carbondale United

None to Report

NAACP

None to Report

Black Chamber of Commerce of Southern Illinois

None to Report

The Survivor Empowerment Center

None to Report

Law Enforcement

Deputy Chief Williams mentioned there were no citizen-based complaints for the month of February. One formal complaint within the department and the investigation is ongoing and seven department accommodations and recognitions.

Deputy Chief Williams mentioned that an individual was squatting in a local residence home and the Carbondale Police Department assisted in that incident.

Deputy Chief Williams mentioned that Carbondale Police Officers detained individuals with firearms during a traffic stop.

Commissioners Edwards announced that the Carbondale Police Department will be sending four to five applicants to the Police Academy.

Allie Moultrie mentioned if the City and Police Department could begin working with the youth and identify problems earlier in regards to the presentation from Mr. Cervantez.

Items for City Council

None To Report

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting – April 3, 2023. There being no further business, Chair Brown closed the meeting to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned

Recorded by Courtney Beverly _____