



Carbondale Human Relations Commission

Minutes – May 2, 2022
Carbondale Civic Center - 5:00pm

Commissioners Present: Dora Weaver, Gerald Edwards, Carmalita Cahill, Michelle Snyder, Stephanie Brown, Anita Brown, Roger Webb

Commissioners (Excused): Carla Childs

Commissioners (Unexcused): Patrick Murphy, Roy Mazuchowski

Guest Present: Jennifer Lampkins, Aaron Lee, AnaRose Hebein, Michael Valliont, Myla Croft

SIU-C Dept. of Public Safety Representative: None

Study Circles Staff: Sarah Heyer

Staff Present: Chief of Police Stan Reno, Deputy Chief Dunning, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Coordinator Sharonda Cawthon and Commission Liaison Courtney Beverly

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:00p.m. by Chair Brown.

MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Snyder and seconded by Commissioner Cahill to approve the minutes from the April 4, 2022 meeting. Motion carried. All Voted Aye.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Cahill announced that the Carbondale Warming Center will have a free clothing and household giveaway scheduled for May 11th.

The Carbondale Warming Center will be relaunching their job program and will be open two days a week.

Commissioner Webb announced that the Delta Regional Authority will offer free medical, dental and vision services on July 22nd – 31st located at the Carbondale City Hall.

Chair Brown announced for Commissioner Weaver that the Carbondale's NAACP branch has scheduled their Community Conversation on May 17th beginning at 6p.m. while registration is held at the Carbondale Public Library.

Commissioner Cahill mentioned that every Saturday at the Carbondale's Farmers Market the Kuffs Social Action Group will be registering individuals to vote.

Chair Brown announced that on May 3rd the Career Expo will be held at the Carbondale Civic Center beginning at 9a.m. which is sponsored by the City of Carbondale and Carbondale's NAACP branch.

Chair Brown mentioned that the ARPA comments have closed.

Chair Brown introduced Carbondale's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Coordinator Sharonda Cawthon to the Human Relations Commission.

OLD BUSINESS

Chair Brown briefly discussed how to get items on the Human Relations Commission Agenda and announced a Human Relations Commissioner vacancy.

NEW BUSINESS

None to Report

ISSUES

None to Report

Public Education/Presentation

Aaron Lee briefly presented on the Carbondale's Dentmon Center in which he discussed the founding and purpose of the center. Additional, the Dentmon Center focuses on agricultural, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, boys and girl's empowerment group and the Midnight Run. Mr. Lee also thanked Officer Kenneth Blackburn for his assistance at the Dentmon Center last week.

Commissioner Weaver introduced Ready 2 Play Music Program Intern Myla Croft to the Human Relations Commission. Myla Croft mentioned that the Ready 2 Play Music Program is a free music program that provides music lessons to under privilege kids in Jackson County. The lessons includes Piano, Violin and Guitar lessons. The music program currently resides at the Fields Community Center and are planning to relocate to the Eurma C. Hayes Center, The Boys and Girls Club of Southern Illinois and The Dentmon Center. To donate or receive more information about the Ready 2 Play Music Program, please visit the www.ready2playjacksoncounty.com.

Public Forums/Events

None to Report

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None to Report

COMMISSION COMMENTS

None to Report

PROCESS ASSESSMENT

Sparrow Coalition Report

Commissioner Webb announced that the Sparrow Coalition meeting will be held on May 3, 2022 beginning at 9 a.m. through Zoom. If anyone is interested in attending the meeting please contact sparrowcarbondale@gmail.com.

Commissioner Webb mentioned that Shawnee Health Care Representatives gave a presentation on health insurance to the Sparrow Coalition.

Neighborhood Alliance Group Report

Sarah Heyer announced there will be no May 4th Zoom meeting.

Sarah Heyer mentioned that the Carbondale Crisis Center will be open on Saturdays at the Center of Empowerment and Justice.

Sarah Heyer mentioned during their Neighborhood Alliance meeting it was discussed how to be more interactive and Public Safety.

Sarah Heyer discussed the Neighborhood Services and Neighborhood Planners and Housing and Public Safety Considerations from Mary O'Hara.

Sarah Heyer announced that the Neighborhood Alliance meeting will be scheduled next month after the Human Relations Commission meeting.

Non-Violent Carbondale Project Report

Sarah Heyer mentioned that Carbondale Public Library Director Diana Sussman will have a schedule this fall.

Neighborhood Action Group Report

None to Report

Racial Justice Coalition

None to Report

Race Unity Group

None to Report

Carbondale United

Nancy Maxwell mentioned that the next Community Connect is scheduled for Murphysboro, IL and the Carbondale Community Connect will be held at Georgetown Apartments.

May 21st is the 2nd Anniversary of George Floyd Weekend and Carbondale United will Co-sponsor with the Black Chamber of Commerce of Southern Illinois.

Nancy Maxwell mentioned during the week of Juneteenth, Carbondale United will host several activities.

Law Enforcement

Chief Reno discussed the approval for a VR Training Simulator for the Carbondale Police Department.

Chief Reno mentioned the weekend shooting incidents and also mentioned that the Police Department have identify two of the responsible party.

Commissioner Cahill mentioned the reopening of the Carbondale Police Department Citizen's Police Academy in which no dates have been scheduled.

Chief Reno announced that the Carbondale Police Ride-Along Program has reopen and that the Five on Five Program will be scheduling meetings soon.

Aaron Lee mentioned having Community Resource Officer Randy Mathis to offer training to the Dentmon Center staff.

Chief Reno and the Human Relations Commission discussed the SIU Crime Prevention Data Collection.

Sarah Heyer mentioned Ezra Klein's podcast from The New York Times, which started a discussion with the Human Relations Commission.

Items for City Council

None To Report

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting – June 6, 2022. There being no further business, Chair Brown closed the meeting to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned

Recorded by Courtney Beverly _____