

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION

Minutes of Regular Meeting

January 10, 2016

A regular meeting of the Community Relations Commission was called to order at 3:00 pm on January 10, 2016 at Alton City Hall, 101 E. 3rd Street, Alton, Illinois.

Members Present: Cindy Lolley, Cassandra Campbell, Benjamin Golley, Megan Williams, Michael Varner, Peter Hough, Dr. Kenneth Spells, Jaida Moore,

Members Absent: Greg Caffey, Chief Jake Simmons, Judge Ellar Duff,

Cassandra L. Campbell opened the meeting with roll call.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Williams to accept the minutes from December 13, 2015 and seconded by Ms. Lolley. Motion passed 8 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent.

REVIEWING AND ADOPTING CALLS TO ACTION

Discussion was had among the Commissioners regarding bias training, building relationships and social services in the community. Suggestions were made that we should try to create a document to share with the community. Possible contacts could include the United Way and Head Start. Ms. Lolley offered to provide the Commission with a Head Start manual to use as a reference.

A motion was made by Ms. Williams to accept the Call to Action item and seconded by Ms. Campbell. Motion passed 8 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent.

UPCOMING EVENTS/UPDATES:

POLICE ACADEMY

Applications due by January 18, 2016. Currently we have not received very many responses from the community for this event. In order to participate in the event each participant must agree to have a background check. The Commission has been asked to provide feedback to help generate more interest from the community.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS TRAINING (A.J. FRENCH)

Eventbright account has been set-up. The speaker has been confirmed. AJ is currently working on setting up the details of the event. The Commission has been asked to continue promoting the event. AJ has requested that gift cards be handed out instead of cash donations.

LISTEN, TALK, LEARN EVENT

An Eventbright account will be set up for this event for registration. We have requested that Big Z announce this event to assist with promotions. We are still waiting on confirmation on setting up technology for this event. We need to follow-up with Dr. Spells on opening the event up to High School students.

MARTIN LUTHER KING UNITY MARCH

All participants will meet at Deliverance Temple at 1:00 pm. Prior to the walk there will be time for participants to make signs to display during the walk. If the temperature is below freezing we have an alternate route that will

be shorter in distance. We have requested street closures during the walk. A brief ceremony will be held at the Monument and light snacks will be served at the conclusion of the walk at Deliverance Temple.

PRINCIPIA COLLEGE THEATER WORKSHOP

Alton High guidance counselors have assisted with identifying 15 students that will participate in the workshop from February-April 2016. Letters have been drafted to go to parents next week. The Community Relations Commission has been listed as a partner of this event. Commissioners are welcome to visit the workshops anytime. The workshops are scheduled to take place after school from 3:15-5:00 pm Mondays and Wednesdays.

NEW/OTHER BUSINESS

Hayner Public Library is looking at the book titled Waking Up White to showcase as a book club featured book. Suggestions have been made that local community groups or churches may be interested in hosting a book club to discuss this book.

PUBLIC FORUM

None

With no further business, a motion was made by Ms. Williams to adjourn and seconded by Mr. Hough. Motion passed 8 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cassandra L. Campbell