

ROCK ISLAND
HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMISSION

Mission: The mission of the Rock Island Human Rights Commission is to bring about greater public awareness of the ethnic and cultural diversity that exists within the community and to ensure that all humans are treated equally, regardless of race gender, religion, age, or disability.

**Rock Island Human Rights Commission
Special Meeting Minutes
Meeting was held in person with a virtual option
October 20, 2022; 5:00 pm**

Commission Members Present

Tamara Felden
Gregg Hampton
Christiana Headley, Secretary
David Levin
Jason Lopez, Vice Chair
Margie Mejia-Caraballo
Randall McMurray
Sara Meyer

Commission Members Absent

Steven Andich
Janet Lockhart Johnson, Chair

Commission Members Virtual

Thurgood Brooks
Vince Thomas

Staff Present

Jerry Jones, City Liaison

Public Present

None

AGENDA ITEM #1 – Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions

Jason called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm

AGENDA ITEM #2 – Public Comment

None

AGENDA ITEM #3 – Approval of Minutes from September Meeting

- David made a motion to approve the minutes. Margie seconded. Unanimous.

AGENDA ITEM #4 – Old Business

- Update on study session: Jerry updated us on the concerns by board members about subpoena power and the new commission. City manager is meeting with individual members to address their concerns. Commission members expressed concern about issues being conveyed to board members by the city manager. The commission is asking for this to come to a vote at the November or December meeting, so we have an answer by the end of the calendar year. As a commission, we would like to proceed with our commission responsibilities and how we are able to proceed. Jerry will discuss this with the city manager. Marjie made a motion that the city manager be addressed that we are not in support of him speaking with individual council members to discuss subpoena power and we would like a vote in the next two council meetings. David seconded. Unanimous.
- Update on Thurgood status and new commission member possibility. Thurgood apologized for his absence on the commission. He's hopeful we can pass this new and improved commission. He thinks he will be stepping down at some point and will make a formal announcement.

AGENDA ITEM #5 – Complaints

- 84-2022-AS: New complaint-Several commission members agree that this complaint needs to be investigated further. Gregg volunteered to contact them and get further information and will follow up with David to decide if meeting with the individual is necessary at this time.

AGENDA ITEM #6 – New Business

- Tamara suggested the book "How to be an Antiracist" by Ibram X Kendri. She also printed off the table of contents to share with the group. Tamara offered to donate books to the commission so we can read and discuss. Tamara will bring books to the next meeting.
- David is also willing to share information from a realtor perspective on fair housing.
- Sara recommended having someone to come in and speak with us from the LGBTQ community. She recommends Chase Norris from Clock, Inc.

AGENDA ITEM #7 – Commissioner Comments

AGENDA ITEM #8 – Adjourn

Jason made a motion to adjourn at 5:43pm.

NEXT MEETING: **November 17, 2022**, 630 Martin Luther King Dr. Rock Island, IL 61201 at **5:00 p.m.** The Rock Island Human Rights Commission meets the third Thursday of each month.