



CITY OF  
*Bloomington*  
ILLINOIS

**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2022 at 4:30 P.M.**

**OSBORN ROOM**

**I. Call to Order -Roll Call of Attendance:**

Commissioners: Present: Vivian Doctora, Uma Kailasom, Tony Jones, Kiran Konam

Commissioners absent: Netia Carey, Rhonda Smith, Kai Ajayi

**II. Public Comment - None**

**III. Approval of September 2022 Minutes:** Motion to approve – Commissioner Jones.  
Second - Commissioner Doctora. All in favor. Minutes approved.

**IV. Agenda Items**

a. 2023 MLK Awards Planning Update

Lawrence Brown is the keynote speaker this year. The contract is currently in legal and all inclusive. We have received nominations for the event. The deadline for submission was December 5<sup>th</sup>. We have two adults and two youth to choose from. Commissioner Jones will have Mr. Hurt forwarded over submission guidelines. Deadline for recommended nominations are Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. Tickets for the event year's prior was through Eventbrite. Commissioner Jones will create the Eventbrite link and flyer this weekend. Commissioner Jones will also contact the Normal point of contact to provide guidance to them. Physical tickets for the event will be at the Bloomington Performing Arts. Commissioner Jones plans on printing 200 physical tickets. Commissioner Jones mentioned either having a printed book or virtual book. After the vote on the selections, we must get the nominees biography and photos. Jones will take lead on this. Sponsorship packages were discussed for the event.

b. Indigenous Day Celebration/Recognition update

City of Bloomington will recognize the day during Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>, 6pm – 8pm@ BCPA Ernest Whiteman III. The presentation is called “No One Ever Sees Indians: Native American in Media”.

Michael Hurt mentioned if we plan the events again, we are going to move them to Saturday. Only one person attended, and the presentation was very long.

Latino Heritage Month Presentation: Author Reyna Grande

\*Lecture/ Q &A by Reyna Grande "A Ballad of Love and Glory"

Very well attended.



c. BPD invitation – Pulse of the Community

d. Deputy City Manager invitation – fireside chat

e. Diversity Initiative Ordinance – status

Michael Hurt mentioned inviting contractors, minority groups for women, and the union. The union was the only ones that attended. We are planning on having another meeting in January. We are discussing having the meeting on Zoom to get more attendance. The consensus was that they would have no problem with matching the new goals. State and Federal contracts have similar languages, and they comply with them well.

f. Community Relations Manager (HRC Liaison) – replacement

Michael Hurt introduced Gregory Wilson. Wilson introduced himself to the commission.

## **V. Old Business**

a. 2023 MLK update – See Above.

## **VI. New Business**

Commissioner Doctora mentioned being a member of the diversity/inclusion committee of Mid Illinois Realtor Association. In April there will be a conference and they are looking for organizations that wants to setup a booth to help families understand affordable housing, fair housing, credit, among other issues. Mentioned the HRC having a table and displaying to the public what we do.

## **VII. Next Scheduled Meeting Date: January 12, 2023**

### **Adjournment:**

Motion to change the location of the January meeting. The new location will be the Parke Hotel.

Individuals with disabilities planning to attend the meeting who require reasonable accommodations to observe and/or participate, or who have questions about the accessibility of the meeting, should contact the City's ADA Coordinator at 309-434-2468 or [mhurt@cityblm.org](mailto:mhurt@cityblm.org).