



CITY OF  
*Bloomington*  
ILLINOIS

**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023 at 4:30 P.M.**

- I. Call to Order -Roll Call of Attendance:** Commissioners: **Present:** Vivian Doctora, Netia Carey, Kiran Konam, Rhonda Smith, Anthony Jones. Uma Kailasam **Absent:** Kiran Konam, Ajayi Olukayode
- II. Public Comment - None**

**Approval of February 2023 Minutes:** Motion to Approve - Jones / Second - Doctora Jones, Carey, Doctora – Vote / Yes. Smith – Abstained. / Minutes approved.

**III. Agenda Items**

**a. 2023 Black History Essay Contest**

Community Relations Manager provided details on this years essay contest. There were 75 submissions and each grade level had three winners each. Prizes will be delivered to the students on 3/10/23. Gregory mentioned meeting with Superintendent Dr. Mouser and networking with teachers to get submissions.

**b. Diversity and Inclusion Survey Update**

Gregory Wilson provided an update on the Diversity and Inclusion Survey. There was a total of 135 responses. The City will use the responses to assist in the development of the diversity and inclusion strategic plan for the City.

**IV. Old Business**

**a. BDP invitation – Pulse of the Community**

Gregory Wilson will provide update to commissioners regarding potential dates.

**b. Deputy City Manager Invitation - Fireside Chat**

The first meeting with Deputy City Manager will be on 4/13. These meetings will be quarterly and be 4/13/23, 6/8/23, 9/14/23, and 12/14/23. The commissioners are encouraged to share any questions they may have beforehand so they can be shared with the deputy manager.



**c. Diversity Initiative Ordinance**

The Diversity Initiative Ordinance is awaiting City Council approval.

**d. 2023 HRC Planned Activities Calendar**

Commissioner Jones will send over as list of events with dates. The city has blocked off the park for the Juneteenth and Cultural Fest event.

**V. New Business**

**a. 2023 Juneteenth Event Update**

Jones and Gregory Wilson have started the plans for the event. Jones mentioned opportunities for the need of assistance with planning the event. Jones would like to get commissioners involved in this years Culture Fest. Jones stressed the importance of growing the number of cultures that attend.

**b. Other**

Commissioner Doctora mentioned an upcoming event on April 30<sup>th</sup>. This event could be an opportunity for us to have a booth and display information about the HRC. If interested, we would need staff to be present at the table. Jones mentioned he could volunteer at the event. There is a form that needs to completed and submitted. Doctora will provide Gregory Wilson with the document to be submitted. There is no cost associated with the booth. Jones motioned for a vote and Kailsasam seconded.

Moved – Jones / Second – Kailsasam. Motion Passed.

**VI. Next Scheduled Meeting Date: April 13, 2023**

**Adjournment: 5:15 pm**