



## **REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday, June 14, 2018

ODT Training Room, Festival Park Plaza

225 Ray Avenue, Fayetteville, NC 28301

**Present:** Chair Sheila Cuffee, Kevin Brooks, Melba Conley, Wesley Fountain, LTC Julia Kobiska, Antoinette Morris, Donna Pelham (via telephone), Georgeanna Pinckney, Maybelyn Rodriguez Laureano, Vicki Teachey-Dukes

**Absent:** Gregory Foxx, Milette Harris, Ngozi Kamalu, Dr. Mark Kendrick, Ingrid Marthy, Robert McRae, SGM Jeffrey Wire

**Staff Present:** Yamile Nazar, Willetta Ragin

Chair Cuffee called meeting to order at 5:37 PM. Followed by a moment of silence. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Teachey-Dukes.

Motion to approve agenda was made by Commissioner Pinckney, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Approved by unanimous vote.

Motion to approve minutes was made by Commissioner Teachey-Dukes, seconded by Commissioner Conley. Approved by unanimous vote.

**Public Forum:** No public present.

### **Committee Reports:**

**ARA Committee:** Chair Cuffee discussed the Annual Awards Reception budget, ledger and donations for total of \$7,200. \$5000 from Compare Foods went directly to the Cumberland Community Foundation. The overall total made was \$12,200 towards the scholarships. Chair Cuffee discussed possible locations for the next ARA: the Crown Coliseum, the Cape Fear Regional Theater and the Embassy Suites. The ARA Committee will continue to research possible locations and prices. Will have more information at next meeting; any suggestions are welcomed. No vote conducted.

**MLK Committee:** Chair Cuffee introduced that Commissioner Milette Harris will be interim Chair of the MLK Scholarship Committee until the next election. No vote conducted.

**Special Projects Committee:** Commissioner Conley discussed the Food Drive. All boxes were filled by two donors, Covenant Love and True Vine. The food boxes were taken to Pauleen Jones at Fayetteville Tech Community College. No vote conducted.

**By-Laws Committee:** No report.

Strategic Planning Committee: No report.

Hate Crimes Committee: Chair Cuffee discussed that Dr. Wade and herself are working on somethings for the Hate Crimes and Rapid Response Committee. They are trying to get training from the Department of Justice. Chair Cuffee also spoke with Mrs. Brooks, from the Southern Poverty Law Center and Mrs. Brooks is will to send the commission some resources. Cancelled the August 19 2018 meeting.

Nominating Committee: Commissioner Morris discussed that nominations are needed for the Chair and Vice Chair. Commissioner Rodriguez Laureano has agreed to stay in the position as Secretary. Email or text Commissioner Morris with nominations by the end of July. If the current commissioners would like to stay in position or will be leaving, also let Commissioner Morris know by email or text. No nominations from the floor. No vote conducted.

Chair's Report: See attachment.

Director's Report: See attachment.

Old Business: No old business reported.

New Business:

71<sup>st</sup> High School: Commissioner Morris went over letter that was received from Dr. Sara Tabor about 71<sup>st</sup> High School. The letter stated that the Black History Club was awarded the use of stoles in 2017; immediately afterward, 71<sup>st</sup> Administration banned all club stoles, including the Native American stoles which have been awarded since 2010. Dr. Tabor believes this led to resentment between African-American and Native-American students and facility. Commissioner Morris stated there is a meeting, June 15, 2018, scheduled with Dr. Tabor, Yamile Nazar, Commissioner Morris and Commissioner Wire. The floor was opened for discussion. Currently have 4 meetings scheduled.

Commissioner Morris called for a motion to continue to move forward with the meetings with the 71<sup>st</sup> High School inquiry with Dr. Tabor, Principal, Superintendent and the Board of Education. Motion made by Commissioner Pelham and seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez Laureano. Vote unanimous.

Amended Documents: Commissioner Morris discussed the current mission statement was adopted June 8, 2017. The letter that Dr. Wade attached asking the committee to possible add sexual orientation, gender identity and LGBTQ to the mission statement, was an older mission statement. After Commissioner Morris and Dr. Wade discussed this, they decided that the current mission statement is well written but would still like for the commission to discuss expanding the Ordinance to add sexual orientation, gender identity and Veteran status. Dr. Wade will write a letter to the City Manager and City Council about adding to the City Ordinance. The floor was opened for discussion. Commissioner Morris discussed about adding Veteran status may not be necessary to add to the Ordinance but adding Veteran status could offer a level of protection for those suffering with PTSD, being discriminated against. Commissioner Teachey-Dukes states that she believes that adding the Veteran status would be helpful.

Commissioner Morris called for a motion to continue to move forward with adding sexual orientation, gender identity and Veteran status to the Ordinance and motion was seconded by Commissioner Teachey-Dukes. Vote unanimous.

Announcements:

- a. History of Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Fort Bragg, June 19, 2018 from 11:30AM-1:00PM.
- b. First Annual Pride Festival, June 22, Lafayette Park, Green Street, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- c. VA Pride Day, June 22, 2018 LGBT Jeopardy in 2 Locations, VA Health Care Center, HCC, Women's Clinic Entrance, 7300 South Raeford Road, Fayetteville, NC, 9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M.; UCC CPA Training Room, Near Valet Entrance, VA Medical Center, 2300 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville, NC, 1:00 P.M. – 1500 P.M.
- d. Peaceful Protest for children who have been taken away from parents, Market House, Saturday or Sunday
- e. Fair Housing Training for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Saturday, June 30, 2018, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., DSS
- f. The annual report will be available August 13, 2018.
- g. Chair Cuffee thanked the Commissioner's board and staff for all they have done. She Cancelled the Executive June 28, 2018 meeting. Asked everyone to enjoy their summer.

Next commission meeting will be held on August 9, 2018 in the ODT Training Room, Festival Park Plaza at 5:30 PM.

Chair Cuffee called for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Commissioner Teachey-Dukes and seconded by Commissioner Brooks. Motion approved by unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

(Date)

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Maybelyn Rodriguez Laureano, Secretary