



**Orange County Human Relations Commission**  
**Minutes**  
**Monday, November 9, 2015**  
**Orange County Animal Services Building Conference Room**

M E M B E R S P R E S E N T			STAFF
Vanessa Soleil	Monica Richard		James Davis
Rollin Russell	Joyce Preslar		Pamela Reynolds
Andy Cagle	Natalie Turner		
Gerald Ponder	Robin Criffield		
Susie Enoch	Jamie Paulen		
G U E S T S			
<i>Excused Absence: Matthew Hughes, Alan Jefferies, Scott Goldsmith and Christine Kelly-Kleese</i>			
<i>Unexcused Absence: Marc Xavier</i>			

**I. Call To Order**

Chair Gerald Ponder called the meeting to order at 6:08p.m.

**II. Introductions**

There were no guests or new members in attendance. Therefore, there were no introductions.

**III. Minutes Approval**

Rollin Russell made a motion to accept the minutes as drafted. Vanessa Soleil seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**IV. County Updates**

James Davis provided an update on the status of the plaque to display all Pauli Murray Award honorees.

James reminded the members that he will be conducting a fair housing presentation for GSC Properties on Tuesday, November 10, 2015. 150 GSC employees are expected to attend.

James informed the members that the Orange County Library is working on a grant which would be used to purchase devices that will increase access for disabled patrons. James requested the members to inform him of any people they know who has a hearing or sight impairment. If such persons are willing, they would be asked by the library to participate in a needs assessment. Vanessa asked whether the referenced grant will include services at the Chapel Hill Town Library. James will discover more information.

James informed the members that the County's Analysis of Impediments (A.I.) is not final. However, it is the Department's intent to present the final A.I. to the BOCC by the end of the year.

The Human Rights Day proclamation will be presented at the BOCC meeting on Monday, December 7, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. The Human Rights Day event will take place on Human Rights Day – December 10, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. at the Seymour Senior Center. All members were invited to attend.

The members discussed the venue for the 2016 HRC meetings. Rollin made a motion to continue to host meetings at the Animal Services Complex. Natalie Turner seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

James reminded the members that the annual HRC report is due on December 18, 2015. A draft report will be made available at the December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Natalie requested that the report include a list of proclamations by category.

## **V. Subcommittee Updates**

### *Executive Committee:*

The notion of hosting a planning retreat was presented. Discussion ensued as noted below.

### *Building Integrated Communities (BIC):*

No Report.

### *Diversity Matters:*

Rollin Russell presented an update on the Community Read. It was recommended that the promotional postcards be delivered for display at the Senior Centers, and the Triangle Disability Awareness Council. Natalie added that the postcards should be taken to OE Enterprises. It was further recommended that the postcards be available at the transit site for Point-to-Point and Easy Rider, at the sites of each Pauli Murray Award business honoree and at Mama Dip's restaurant.

James informed the members that the grant application for the Forum speaker has not been completed.

### *Community Relations:*

The need for Pauli Murray Award nominees and Poster and Essay Contest entries was briefly discussed.

### *Collateral Consequences:*

Robin Criffield stated that the subcommittee is still determining its mission and focus. It was announced that Orange County recently hired a Criminal Justice Resource Manager. It was expressed that this newly hired person should be contacted regarding the issues to be addressed by the subcommittee

**VI. HRC Action/Event Planning**

The members discussed hosting a planning retreat. The members opted not to discuss the HRC History, Accomplishments, Membership or future plans during a regular meeting. Natalie recommended that these topics should be presented at the retreat itself. Robin added that regular meetings should be reserved for reporting accomplishments. Robin also opined that the venue retreat should not be the same site as the regular meetings. James recommended that the retreat should be about six (6) hours. Natalie will send a Doodle Poll to the members.

**VII. Other Business/Announcements**

None

**VII. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. on a motion by Natalie, seconded by Jamie Paulen.

Respectfully Submitted:

James E. Davis, Jr.,  
Civil Rights Specialist