



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

M E M B E R S P R E S E N T			STAFF
Marc Xavier	Monica Richard	Matthew Hughes	James Davis
Rollin Russell	Christine Kelly-Kleese	Doris Brunson	Pamela Reynolds
Alan Jefferies	Vanessa Soleil	Joyce Preslar	
Andrea Jones			
G U E S T S			
Dr. Terri Phoenix			
<i>Excused Absence:</i>		<i>Natalie Turner, Gerald Ponder and Jamie Paulen</i>	
<i>Unexcused Absence:</i>		<i>Jilan Li, Antonia Pedroza, and Dominika Baran</i>	

**I. Call To Order**

Chair Doris Brunson called the meeting to order at 6:08p.m.

**II. Introductions**

Introductions were conducted after the arrival of guest presenter, Dr. Terri Phoenix.

**III. Minutes Approval**

The members reviewed the December, 2014 and the January, 2015 minutes. Rollin Russell made a motion to accept the December minutes as drafted. Matt Hughes seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Rollin made a motion to accept the January minutes as drafted. Monica Richard seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**IV. County Updates**

James Davis reminded the board that there will be an update regarding HRC's efforts to address gender equity on Tuesday, February 3, 2015. Matthew Hughes will present this report. James also thanked the members for their involvement with the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. events. Rollin Russell and Jamie Paulen participated in the Hillsborough MLK March. Other members attended the lecture presented by activist Angela Davis at UNC.

**V. Subcommittee Updates**

*Executive Committee:*

The members were given a copy of the three (3) new member applications to review: Prof. R. Ross Holloway, Robin R. Criffield, and Tod Puckett. The members discussed that there were currently two vacancies with the possibility of a third vacancy because a current member expects

to move to Durham County. Vanessa Soleil made a motion to invite all three applicants to the March meeting and defer recommendations to the BOCC. Monica seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Regarding the documentary of Grace Lee Boggs, the members discussed the possibility of hosting a viewing at the Orange County Main Library in Hillsborough on March 14<sup>th</sup> or March 21<sup>st</sup> as a lead-in to the Community Read scheduled for March 23, 2015. James informed the members that the library has secured a copy of *A Matter of Sex* and that this film can be shown on either March 14<sup>th</sup> or March 21<sup>st</sup> at 2:00 p.m. The Grace Lee Boggs documentary has not been obtained. The members recommended that if the Boggs documentary is not available, only show *A Matter of Sex*, and the viewing should be March 14<sup>th</sup>. Rollin made a formal motion to show the film on March 14, 2015. Joyce Preslar seconded the motion which carried unanimously. James will make all necessary arrangements with the library.

There was discussion on upcoming special presentations. Rollin recommended that Luke Smith with El Futuro, Inc. should be invited to make a presentation. James informed Rollin that he has spoken with Luke Smith and has sent him an email asking whether he would be available to attend the March or April, 2015 meeting. James will provide an update.

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

No Report.

#### *Community Relations:*

Rollin announced that there is a Diversity Matters Subcommittee meeting on Monday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the staff office in Hillsborough.

Regarding the Pauli Murray Awards, James announced that the logistics for the program are complete. All posters for the Fair Housing Poster Contest will be displayed. Letters have been sent to all previous Pauli Murray Award winners.

#### *Collateral Consequences:*

Vanessa Soleil stated that she met with James Williams, Public Defender. It was recommended that the HRC host a forum with the police and constituents.

## **VI. Guest Presentation**

Dr. Terri Phoenix, Director of the LGBTQ Center at UNC-Chapel Hill, presented information on the LGBTQ community. Dr. Phoenix provided an update on the program at UNC, stating that the Center has been on campus for ten (10) years. The Center administers a Safe Zone program, acts as a resource of information, and provides advocacy.

Dr. Phoenix explained and defined the four “sex” groupings:

- Assigned Sex
- Gender Identity
- Gender Expression
- Sexual Orientation

Dr. Phoenix also explained and defined the terms intersex, transgender and cisgender. In the promotion of equal opportunities, Dr. Phoenix discussed the importance of family or gender-neutral public restrooms. With regard to etiquette, Dr. Phoenix stated that it is proper to ask a person which pronoun the person prefers. Some persons prefer sex-neutral pronouns such as “they” or “hir.” Additional information can be obtained at [www.lgbtq.unc.edu](http://www.lgbtq.unc.edu).

**VII. Other Business/Announcements**

No other business or announcements.

**VIII. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

James E. Davis, Jr.,  
Interim Director