

Berea Human Rights Commission (BHRC)
Meeting Minutes
Date: April 23, 2025
Location: City Hall - Randy Stone Room

Call to Order

Chair Sharyn Mitchell called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Roll Call

Present: Mim Pride, Felecia Ballard, Susie Harris, Sharyn Mitchell, Janel Lakes Davenport

Absent: Katie Heckman

Guests: Dani Gift, Berea Tourism, and Ali Blair, First Friday and Levitt Amp Series

Sharyn Mitchell welcomed the newest Commissioner, Susie Harris.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the March meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes with corrections was made by Mim Pride and seconded by Felecia Ballard. Correction noted: Kathy Williams was not affiliated with the HRC in Richmond and Dayzaughn Graves was present, she is a member of the Richmond HRC.

All members approved the motion.

Financial Report

No changes were reported. Financials remain the same.

Old Business

- Training Session with Juan Peña:
 - Identified the need to correct the handling of HRC calls and complaints.
 - Website needs updates to ensure complaints are properly directed.
 - Suggestion to implement a dedicated phone line or Google Voice account for BHRC.
- Badges:
 - Badge for Mim Pride has been ordered.
 - Badge for Susie Harris will be ordered.
- Programming:

- Proposal to invite a Social Security representative to provide updates.
- Storage Needs:
 - Discussion regarding secure, accessible storage at City Hall for BHRC documents.
 - Plan to consult Daniel about digitized BHRC documents.
 - Suggestion to hire a part-time employee for document organization (approx. 4 hours per week) or engage student interns.
 - Mim Pride will seek help regarding phone system improvements.
 - Discovery of BHRC document box beside fridge in the Randy Stone Room; Janel Lakes Davenport will transfer these documents to her office.
- Complaint Filed:
 - A complaint was submitted via the portal with assistance from Sharyn Mitchell and has been acknowledged by the Louisville office.

New Business

- Juneteenth Event Planning (June 15, 2025):
 - Location: Gathering space behind the Pavilion (old Ford space) with kitchenette and restrooms.
 - Event Duration: 3 hours (suggested time: 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM).
 - Space for tents, tables, and chairs available for community groups.
 - Banners can be displayed on the fence facing Hwy 25.
 - Berea Tourism will contribute \$1,000 toward the event.
 - Exploring local artists and smaller production setups.
 - Ali Blair to check availability and costs of production team.
 - Cameron Schaffer suggested as a local support option.
 - Food Trucks:
 - 3-4 food trucks anticipated.
 - Trucks must unhitch to maximize space.
 - Insurance certificates required.
 - Felecia Ballard and Ali Blair will coordinate.
 - Chairs and tables:
 - City and Tourism will provide chairs.
 - Public encouraged to bring personal chairs.
 - Flyer:
 - Susie Harris will design the flyer.
 - Music License:
 - Covered under Berea Tourism's existing license.
 - Community Involvement:
 - Invitations to be extended to churches, civic organizations (Lions, Kiwanis, Rotary, History groups), and healthcare groups.
 - Richmond HRC invited to assist (to join next meeting via Zoom).
 - Face painting and children's activities being considered.

- Contact Berea Public Library (Kennedy Moren) for potential participation.

Outreach Assignments:

- Sharyn Mitchell:
 - Hasan Davis, Brass Band, Joslyn Glover, Baptist Health, Civil War reenactment group, genealogy group.
- Susie Harris:
 - Boy Scouts, children's poetry readings.
- Felecia Ballard:
 - Kori Jackson, Dr. McHutchins, Angel Huguely, First Baptist and St. Paul churches, Steppers at Madison Middle, Baptist Health, Telford YMCA Black Archivers.
- Mim Pride:
 - First Christian Church, NAACP.
- Katie Heckman:
 - Berea Home Village, St. Joseph Hospital.
- Richmond HRC possibly assisting with children's activities (need tables); Historical Society may provide a coloring book.

Next Meeting

A Zoom meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 5, 2025, at 12:30 PM. Sharyn Mitchell will send out the link.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Mim Pride and seconded by Susie Harris.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Submitted by: Janel Lakes Davenport, Secretary/Treasurer

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