

## Human Relations Committee

### Minutes for 6/5/23 Meeting

Meeting convened at 5:02 pm.

Members present: Dave Boyer , John Harvey, Yolanda Cochrell, Violet Evans, Tabby Crow, Anya Covington

Police Chief Fillback, Amanda Tucker/Director of HR, James Arnold/Economic Development, and Cathie Hensley attended.

Approval of Minutes: (Didn't make a record of the vote].

Public Comment: Mr. Alan Vess, Edwardsville resident, enquired whether the Committee would accept a complaint he has that his human rights may be violated because of action he may have to take based on complaints about his lawn. There was a brief discussion of the role of the Committee and the definition of human rights that the Committee is based on.

Police Department Yearly Update: Police Chief Fillback reported that the Department made 8 new hires, including two black men and 2 women. Some candidates were from the Police Academy and some were lateral hires of existing employees. The Chief reported on a planned Open House with the Fire Department. He also noted the school supply fund drive undertaken with Eden Church. Dave B. mentioned the banner by the Police Department. A Police Community Forum will be scheduled in November, and a new Citizen Police Academy in the spring, and possibly the fall. The Department continues to engage in the Explorer program with youth aged 14 to 21. There was discussion about car thefts, and people apprehended with firearms.

City Proposal for Assisting Homeowners: James Arnold described a project to invest funds in renovating and upgrading older homes for homeowners. The City would provide a set amount of funding for homes valued at no more than \$200,000. James A. asked that the Committee endorse this proposal prior to sending it to the ACS. Members voting yes: Dave B., Yolanda C., Anya C., Tabby C., Violet E. Member voting no: John H.

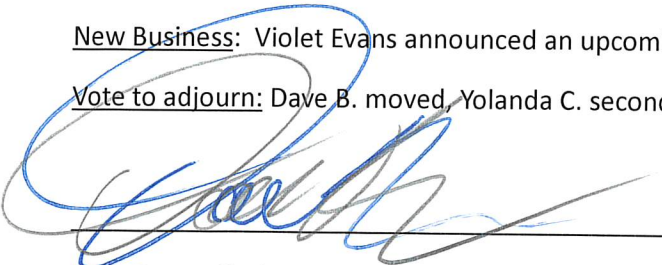
Election of Officers: Dave Boyer was elected Chair of the Committee [Yolanda C. moved, John H. seconded]. Violet Evans was elected Vice Chair [Yolanda C. moved, Anya C. seconded]. John Harvey was elected Secretary [Yolanda C. moved, Dave B. seconded].

Open Meetings Act and FOIA review: Information was provided on these policies.

Race Relations & Equality Survey: The Committee will address responses pertaining to discrimination at the July meeting.

New Business: Violet Evans announced an upcoming Juneteenth Celebration sponsored by her church.

Vote to adjourn: Dave B. moved, Yolanda C. seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:18 pm. Next meeting will be July 10.

  
Dave Boyer, Chairman

6/10/23  
Date

Respectfully submitted by John Harvey