



MINUTES OXFORD CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

Municipal Building 15 South College Ave. Oxford, Ohio 45056 Second Floor Conference Room

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2024 AT 4:00 PM

Approval of Agenda

Quorum not reached - Meeting Summary

Members Present: Ms. Rebecca Howard and Ms. Gretchen Ziolkowski

Staff Members Present: Mr. Douglas R. Elliott, Jr., City Manager/Director; Ms. Jessica Greene, Assistant City Manager; and Ms. Heather Barbour, Clerk of Council

A regular meeting of the Civil Rights Commission was called to order by Director Mr. Elliott on Thursday, August 15, 2024, at 4:06 pm. Mr. Elliott explained that since a quorum was not reached, the meeting would be a discussion, and no actions would be taken.

Approval of Minutes

1. Minutes of the March 14, 2024, meeting.

Old Business

Mr. Elliott mentioned at the March 14th meeting that the commission was asked to define the role of the CRC. Ms. Ziolkowski shared that educating the public and providing links to the organizations that can help is what she thinks the role of the CRC is. Ms. Greene reported on the summer project; an intern researched other cities to see if they had a CRC and what the role of the CRC is in that municipality. Ms. Greene shared that most municipalities don't have CRC's; they have DEI Committees, or if they have a CRC, the role is more DEI-focused.

New Business

1. Discussion Item - Role of the Civil Rights Commission - Review proposed changes to Section 143 Civil Rights Commission

Mr. Elliott presented information on the proposed changes to Section 143 of the Oxford Codified Ordinances entitled Civil Rights Commission (handout included in meeting summary). Ms. Howard mentioned that even with these changes, the CRC still doesn't have teeth. Ms. Howard asked if individuals would still be able to submit complaints. Mr. Elliott replied that individuals would still be able to submit complaints, and he would investigate and make recommendations to the commission. Ms. Ziolkowski shared that she liked the proposed verbiage change found in section b on page 3 of the handout: "may study and investigate other issues of discriminatory practices and make recommendations to City Council for policy changes".

Adjournment

Mr. Elliott ended the discussion at 4:23 pm.