Muncie Human Rights Commission Board Minutes
Kennedy Library Community Room
September 21, 2026

Called the meeting to order 4:30pm
Commissioners online/present: Kim Miller, Linda Muckway, Michelle Clark, Gretchen Cheesman, Steve Sneed, Daisy Dale, Pam Ivy, Pat Akins
Commissioners Not Present: Christiana Mann
Staff present: Attorney John Moyhihan
Staff Not Present: City Attorney Aubrey Crist

Approval of Minutes from August MHRC meeting - Dale motioned to pass the minutes with the amendment of correcting Clark and Sneed's last names Second Clark
Motion approved
Approval of Agenda - Dale motioned to add Civilian review board discussion added second Clark
Motion approved

Community Reports - Sara from Muncie Folk Collective
Sara explained what they do in the community. There was a gap in services to bring narcan into the community, the first community box was set up at Avondale community box. Iit's completely anonymous and they have added 10 more boxes since 2021. There is a vending machine in the hospital as well. In 2023 they added an outreach team and they go into the community following a harm reduction model helping individuals experiencing homelessness, substance, and mental health issues. They have free laundry days that have been very successful. While the laundry is being done they are also doing case management. It's held on a Friday eventing because it is more accessible. They go through about 2000 doses of narcan every few months, they do narcan packing and training as well. They get the narcan through a grant. Going to the boxes is confidential since there is a stigma about addiction and the use of narcan. This helps encourage people to get the narcan. Cheesman asked if there is needle exchange in the county while there are not there are syringe collection boxes. The health department has to be the one to vote on and bring syringe exchange to the county.
They also have a grant for the outreach that they do. They will be working with the Indiana Department of Health as well.
Mr. Long has started working with the organization and is excited to be able to give back to the community.

Discuss Public Comment Policy - Ivy asked if there would be a sign in before the meeting or how that would be handled.
Dale is in favor of a 5 minute time limit and maybe no sign in or if someone misses to still allow someone to speak.
Cheesman recommended 4 minutes.
Clark has seen some meetings where they put a total of 1 hour of public comments if there is a contentious topic.

Add a sign up sheet for the purpose of record keeping.
Cheesman motions to accept the policy with the changes outlined (4 minute time limit, having a sign in sheet for record keeping)
Second Sneed
Motion passed

Committee Updates

Services Committee- There are various complaints about harassment by a city employee and multiple lawyers have advised that this is not a human rights violation but have given other resources to this person to pursue.
Clark talked about a possible committee that works with the executive director to go over cases that the director needs help with.
Clark motioned to create a case review committee that the temporary services committee would transition to after the executive director is hired that helps review active cases on a monthly basis
Second Dale
Motion passed

Budget- The budget was turned in two days late. Clark is going to attend the budget meeting to request the line items we had voted on to be moved.

Hiring Committee- They have narrowed down the candidates and are working through the first round of interviews. After they narrow it down to two candidates there will be dates scheduled for the whole commission to meet with the two candidates. Cheesman will get the notice ready when we meet to discuss the candidates. We will interview over zoom.

Ordnance Review- There was information that the new law passed would not impact the way the local commissions work and what we do. We keep our investigation and subpoena powers. The state human rights commission sent the statement that the local ordnance does not need changed.
Dale motions to disband the ordinance review committee.
No second

Recordkeeping Update- Dale has been working to compile as many resources about the history of the local human rights commission. From places like Carnigy, Minnetrisa, the Historic Society, Bracken. This includes some minutes, agendas, ordinance revisions, stories from former commissioners and so on.
Clark brought up that there are many records in the office and we should go through those to see if there are any records that should be preserved such as annual reports etc.

Civilian Review Board- They ran into trouble when trying to get documents and cam footage but Dale has had a hard time getting some of the information. Muckway suggested we invite the police merit commissions officer to see what their process was. Cheesman suggested Melissa or Nate could be invited as well to see their process.

Dale motions to form a three person sullivan review board research committee made of Akins, Dale, Muckway
Clark second
Motion passed

Complaint report- 7 house complaints, an employment complaint that could be addressed locally. A person got the right to sue letter from EOC and that person has been having a hard time finding an attorney to take that case. Muckway is trying to get more recommendations of attorneys that might take the case.
There was a complaint about hate crimes against someone and the family but there were no specifics and after reaching out multiple times Muckway has not heard back.
There was a complaint about the condition of an apartment and there was no resolution to this through the apartment complex.
There was a complaint that a MITS bus employee said they could not reschedule the ride until the end of the day. A MITS board member has been made aware of this and is working to help correct this issue.
There was a complaint made from a person before we hired the former executive director and Muckway looked into it and was unable to find anywhere that his complaint was filed.
Cheesman would like to track the housing complaints to see how many fall under fair housing.
Cheesman thanked Muckway

Other Business - None

Commissioner Comment- Dale has an upcoming event about her grandfather at Carnegie Library. The Muncie Queer Alliance has a movie series coming out and that will be announced soon.
Dale brought up a nondiscrimination ordinance, Cheesman pointed out there would have to be an update to the Board of Works as well. Cheesman said that the ordinances should be consistent and would like to see what Dale is suggesting so we can all review it.

Public Comment- Clark read the public comment policy
No public comment

Adjourn: Cheesman motion to adjourn at 5:50 Second Akins
Motion passed