



One City for All People

Full Committee Meeting – Minutes
Monday, February 6, 2023, 4:00pm – 5:30pm
Howard Office Building
Sonny West Auditorium
700 2nd Ave. S., Nashville, TN 37210

The mission of the Metro Human Relations Commission is to protect and promote the personal dignity, peace, safety, security, health, and general welfare of all people in Nashville and Davidson County.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 4:33pm.

Commissioners in attendance: Ariel Safdie, Genma Stringer Holmes, Kosar Kosar, Charles Traugher, Maryam Abolfazli, Pratik Dash, Irwin Venick, Dakota Galban, Marcus Buggs, Alecia Wynn, Jorge Salles Diaz

Commissioners absent: Edubina Arce, Garlinda Burton, Amy Chartlon, Dan Cadenas, Larea Kwakye, Ben Tran

Staff in attendance: Davie Tucker, Ashley Bachelder, Derrick Smith

2. **CONFIRM QUORUM**
Quorum was confirmed.
3. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
The minutes were approved.
4. **FINANCIAL UPDATE**
The monthly financials were shared; there were no questions and no concerns from staff or commissioners.
5. **NEW BUSINESS**

Honoring the life of Avi Poster

- Commissioner Venick prepared a resolution to recognize and honor the life and work of Avi Poster, who recently passed after an illness. The resolution was unanimously approved and will be shared with his wife.

Proposed state legislation

- There are a number of proposed pieces of state legislation that are targeted at or will directly impact the functioning of Metro Nashville government and the quality of life, health, safety and dignity of Nashville community members. Some of those bills include but are not limited to:

reducing the size of the metro council, abolishing the community oversight board in Nashville and other cities, defunding the convention center, taking control of the airport authority and sports authority, a number of bills that reduce healthcare access for transgender individuals, and bills that criminalize aspects of transgender identity and parenting/caregiving for transgender youth.

- Commissioners and staff will monitor legislation and support efforts, as appropriate, oppose bills that degrade democratic processes and structures, bills that contribute to voter suppression and stifle civic engagement, and bills that that will cause harm to people.

Metro budget process

- The metro budget process is ongoing. Currently departments are asked to compile their budget requests, which includes a budget equity tool.
- The budget equity tool requires information on the following: 1) how equity and data are incorporated in program planning and evaluation, 2) how equity considerations are given to staff recruitment, hiring and promotion, and 3) what strategies and methods departments will use for outreach to community members about various programs.
- The requested budget equity information seems more robust than in previous years. Commissioners are interested in learning more about how the equity measures are used in determining program impacts and outcomes after they are submitted as projections. The commission would like to invite Andrea Blackman's team to the next meeting to better understand this process.

Tyre Nichols statement

- Commissioner Kosar prepared a statement to show support to and solidarity with the family of Tyre Nichols, and the Memphis community more broadly. Commissioners discussed minor changes which staff will make. The final statement will be shared with the commission for distribution.

6. **OLD BUSINESS**

- Staffing and Hiring Updates: The new Community Engagement and Administrative Coordinator have been hired and have tentative start dates of February 15, 2023.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Diamond Bell with Stand Up Nashville invited Commissioners to attend the Re-Imagine East Bank, Re-Imagine Nashville event on Saturday, February 25th from 2-4pm. The event purpose is to continue to share information about the status of the east bank and Titans developments, how community members can be involved and advocate for community needs.

Kay Bowers shared information about the Titans stadium proposal. The Metro Council voted to approve a terms sheet in December that was incomplete, and more negotiations will continue to happen. She is working to elevate the wishes of the community to be more aware and involved, and for negotiations to be responsive to what the community wants.

Peter Woolfolk spoke about the expungement program in the criminal court. He would like to make a presentation to the Commission during the next meeting to detail what is available to community members.

8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Executive Committee will meet on Thursday, February 23rd at 11:00am.

9. **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 5:47pm.

Appeal of Decisions from the Metro Human Relations Commission

If you are not satisfied with a decision of the Metropolitan Human Relations Commission, you may appeal the decision by petitioning for a writ of certiorari with the Davidson County Chancery or Circuit Court. Your appeal must be filed within 60 days of the date of the entry of the Human Relations Commission's decision. We advise that you seek your own independent legal advice to ensure that your appeal is filed in a timely manner and that all procedural requirements have been met.



If any accommodations are needed for individuals with disabilities who wish to be present at the meeting, please contact MHRC at 615-880-3370 or MHRC@nashville.gov. Requests should be made as soon as possible but at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting for the entity to provide such needed aid or service.