



Carbondale Human Relations Commission

Minutes – September 13, 2021
Carbondale Civic Center - 5:00pm

Commissioners Present: Stephanie Brown, Dora Weaver, Michelle Snyder, Roger Webb, Carla Childs, Roy Mazuchowski, Patrick Murphy, Jason Grenman, Gerald Edwards, Carmalita Cahill

Commissioners (Excused): Anita Brown

Commissioners (Unexcused):

Guest Present:

SIU-C Dept. of Public Safety Representative: None

Study Circles Staff: Sarah Heyer

Staff Present: Chief Stan Reno, Commission Liaison Courtney Beverly

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:00p.m. by Chair Stephanie Brown

MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Mazuchowski and seconded by Commissioner Webb to approve the minutes from the August 2, 2021 meeting. Motion carried. All Voted Aye.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Brown announced Carmalita Cahill as the new Human Relations Commission Business Representative.

OLD BUSINESS

None to Report

NEW BUSINESS

None to Report

ISSUES

None to Report

Public Education/Presentation

Commissioner Childs introduced Nancy Maxwell from the community group Carbondale United, Nancy Maxwell discussed her position with Carbondale United, local social justice and upcoming events within the Southern Illinois area.

Public Forums/Events

None to Report

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sarah Heyer announced The Big Event which is scheduled for the weekend of September 17th which is organized by community group Women For Change.

Sarah Heyer mentioned that the Illinois Humanities Council will meet on October 12, 2021.

COMMISSION COMMENTS

Chair Brown mentioned developing a calendar for the Community Groups and Agencies.

Commissioner Webb mentioned the Carbondale Employment Fair and the Carbondale Senior Fair.

Commissioner Weaver announced the 44th NAACP Annual Freedom Fund Banquet on September 17th. The banquet will be held virtual this year.

Commissioner Weaver mentioned that September 28th is National Voter Registration Day and the NAACP, Black Graduate Greek Council and Young Democrats will host a voter registration drive at the SIU Student Center and Carbondale Public Library.

Commissioner Murphy mentioned attending the August 24th City Council meeting.

Commissioner Murphy suggested to Commissioner Webb on helping the Carbondale Warming Center.

Commissioner Grenman mentioned that he attended the TIF meeting.

Commissioner Edwards mentioned that the Five on Five program meets every third Tuesday at 2:00p.m. located at the Carbondale Police Department.

Commissioner Edwards and Chief Reno announced that the Citizen Police Academy and Ride Along have been suspended due to COVID-19.

Commissioner Childs mentioned to Chief Reno how helpful Laterriea Martin has been on finding mental health referrals.

PROCESS ASSESSMENT

Sparrow Coalition Report

Commissioner Webb announced that the Sparrow Coalition meeting will be held on October 5, 2021 beginning at 9 a.m. through Zoom. If anyone is interested in attending the meeting please contact Roger Webb at rowebb@hotmail.com or sparrowcarbondale@gmail.com. The programs that will be discussed are the *Shelter to Home Program* and *First Presbyterian Free Laundry Day Program*.

Commissioner Webb mentioned that the Carbondale Warming Center has received a reimbursement grant and are asking for donations. Donations can be mailed to the Carbondale Warming Center or submitted to the Carbondale Warming Center website.

Neighborhood Alliance Group Report

Sarah Heyer announced that the Carbondale Sustainability Commission will be applying for a grant to do soil testing around Koppers Wood. Sarah also mentioned that the August 28th Carbondale Community Resilience Fair was well received.

Non-Violent Carbondale Project Report

None to Report

Neighborhood Action Group Report

None to Report

Racial Justice Coalition

Sarah Heyer mentioned that the Racial Justice Coalition met on September 9th.

Race Unity Group

Commissioner Weaver mentioned that the Race Unity Group has written and submitted a letter to the Carbondale Community High School Board of Education to become members on the Race Unity Group.

Carbondale United

Nancy Maxwell announced several upcoming dates, Community Conversation September 23rd, Marion Pop Up Community Connection October 16th, Carbondale Attucks Park Pop Up Community Connection September 25th, The Black Chamber of Commerce of Southern Illinois September 26th, Sneaking Out September 18th, Cure Violence Program.

Nancy Maxwell mentioned that Carbondale United are currently working on filing a 1C3.

Law Enforcement

Chief Reno announced that the Carbondale Police Department assisted Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church with their drive-thru backpack giveaway on August 7, 2021.

Chief Reno mentioned the recent homicide investigation case.

Chief Reno mentioned the Carbondale Police Department being understaffed and encouraged for individuals to apply for Entry Level Police Officer and Lateral Police Officer.

Chief Reno announced that the Carbondale Police Department Community Christmas Store and Coats for Kids will be virtual this year. Dates and times will be announced at a later meeting.

Items for City Council

None To Report

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting – October 4, 2021. There being no further business, Chair Stephanie Brown closed the meeting to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned

Recorded by Courtney Beverly _____