



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION

Thursday, February 9, 2012

5:00 PM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room LL-120 (Madison Municipal Building)

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting of the EOC was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by John Quinlan, Secretary, acting as Chair.

Present: 7 -

John L. Quinlan; Katherine Cramer Walsh; Shawn F. Peters; Brandon M. Johnson; Tom Grogan; Charles E. McDowell and Benjamin M. Nerad

Excused: 5 -

Brian L. Solomon; Coco Bustamante; Brian Benford; Sean A. Saiz and Donna V. Hurd

Staff: Rachel Campbell and Ariel Ford

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion made by Walsh, seconded by McDowell, the November 10, 2011 minutes were approved without correction. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

4. DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

Before the Commission took up items for discussion, a round-robin introduction of members and staff was conducted for the benefit of the Commission's newest members, Brandon Johnson and Shawn Peters.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. [24423](#) The Use of Drivers' Licenses and Passports Only in Permitting Admission to Madison Bars

Ford announced that a tavern safety training session for Madison bar owners is scheduled for February 20 at 6 p.m. at the Madison Senior Center, 330 W. Mifflin St. Presentations will be made by DCR staff, Alcohol Policy Coordinator Mark Woulf, and representatives from the City Attorney's Office, Police, and Fire.

6. [23313](#) Black-owned nightspots in Madison

Attachments: [1997 eoc report alcohol licensing.pdf](#)
[wsj article black owned nightspots.pdf](#)

Nerad expressed concern that Benford's suggestion that a subcommittee be organized to look into this issue not be forgotten in Benford's absence. Discussion ensued and the Commission agreed to refer the item to the next Executive Committee meeting, at which time hopefully Benford will be present and the Committee will be able to give the idea a more formal structure.

7. [24960](#) Statement in Opposition to the Passage of SB 207

Attachments: [SB207 letter from employment committee.pdf](#)

The Commission reviewed the statement. On a motion by Walsh, seconded by Nerad, the Commission accepted the statement from the EOC Employment Committee. Motion passed by voice vote/other. Walsh recommended and the Commission agreed that the item should be referred to the Executive Committee, who would draft a statement on the issue to present to the Commission and, potentially, to the Common Council. Staff reviewed the current status of SB 207, which is that it is available for scheduling before the senate. This status has remained unchanged since November.

REPORTS

8. [24676](#) Legislative Update--For information only. No action required.

Staff will provide recent updates, activity, and possible Madison impact of legislative items relevant to the mission of the EOC. For information only. Any item raised for future discussion will be posted on the next agenda.

Ford reported that the Mayor's Office is currently seeking legislative issues impacting Madison that the Mayoral Government Relations Officer, Nicholas R. Zavos, can present to state legislators. One current example is that the Madison Equal Opportunities Ordinance, 39.03, has recently had and may again have protections whittled away by state legislation, the most recent being protections against housing discrimination based on arrest record and

conviction record. The Commission discussed local governments' ability to enforce their own laws and different ways to maintain these protections.

9. [15179](#) PRESIDENT'S REPORT--For information only. No action required.

The EOC President will summarize meetings attended and other related activities on behalf of the Commission since the last Commission meeting. For information only. Any item raised for future discussion will be posted on the next agenda.

The President's report was skipped as EOC President Bustamante was not present.

10. [13093](#) DIRECTOR'S REPORT--For information only. No action required.

Lucía Nuñez, DCR Director, will report on the following:

- a. Her activities and meetings since the last meeting.*
- b. Update on agency activities.*

The Director's report was skipped as DCR Director Lucía Nuñez was not present.

11. [08357](#) DIVISION MANAGER'S REPORT--For information only. No action required.

Ariel Ford, Equal Opportunities Division Manager, will report on the following:

- a. Activities of the Division since the last meeting.*
- b. Update on staff activities.*
- c. Update on the EEOC Contract.*

Ford reported that she and Nuñez are spreading the word that the City's commissions, committees, and boards need new members, as many took a large hit due to so many former members not submitting a Statement of Interest this year and subsequently being removed. Nuñez is also still heavily involved in working with the City Clerk's Office to educate voters on Voter ID.

Madison Metropolitan School District is arguing that the EOD does not have jurisdiction over discrimination complaints brought against it, so the EOD is currently unable to accept new complaints against the MMSD or MSCR (Madison School and Community Recreation). The EOD's three open cases against these respondents are currently on hold pending the results of this case, and all incoming complaints against them are being directed to the ERD.

EOD Investigator Melissa Gombar is working on the J.C. Wright Award's criteria, and this will be forwarded to Commissioners once it is complete.

The EOD received payment for their 2011 contract with the EEOC. They have not yet received their full contract for 2012, but preliminary communication suggests it will be for about 72 cases.

12. [08358](#) COMMITTEE REPORTS--For information only. No action required.

Reports summarizing discussions at meetings held since the last meeting. For information only. Any item raised for discussion appears under Unfinished Business or will be posted as "Introduction of Future Items From the Floor" on the next agenda.

- a. EOC Executive Committee
- b. EOC Employment Committee

- a. The Executive Committee did not meet due to lack of quorum.
- b. While the Employment Committee did meet earlier today (February 10), no one present attended the meeting and therefore no report could be given.

13. [15741](#)

INTRODUCTION OF FUTURE ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

As previously noted, Legis. File No. 23313 ("Black-owned nightspots in Madison") and 24960 ("Statement in Opposition to the Passage of SB 207") will be referred to the next Executive Committee agenda. The Executive Committee is next scheduled to meet March 5, 2012.

McDowell suggested that Mr. Zavos be invited to speak to the issue of legislation impacting local ordinances at the next Commission meeting. Grogan suggested that an item for discussion on the widespread use of mandatory identification be placed on the next agenda and agreed to write up a proposal for presentation. The Commission agreed to add these items to the next EOC agenda. The EOC is next scheduled to meet March 15, 2012.

14. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion from Nerad, seconded by Johnson, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.