



# City of Madison

City of Madison  
Madison, WI 53703  
www.cityofmadison.com

## Meeting Minutes - Approved EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION

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Thursday, October 13, 2011

5:00 PM

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

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m. by Bustamante, President.

**Present:** 7 -

Coco Bustamante; Brian Benford; John L. Quinlan; Sean A. Saiz;  
Katherine Cramer Walsh; Thomas R. Grogan and Benjamin M. Nerad

**Absent:** 1 -

Charles E. McDowell

**Excused:** 2 -

Brian L. Solomon and Donna V. Hurd

**Staff:** Rachel Campbell, Ariel Ford, and Lucía Nuñez

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion from Benford, seconded by Walsh, the July 14, 2011 minutes were approved without correction. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

### 4. DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

Bustamante took a moment to introduce the Commission's newest member, Sean Saiz, and to conduct a round-robin introduction of EOC members and staff.

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

At this time, two members of the public arrived to address the Commission. It was agreed to take up Public Comment again in order to hear their comments.

Z! Haukeness and Robert McGee of Operation Welcome Home (OWH) introduced themselves. They wished to speak in support Item 5, Legis. File No. 23825, the proposed resolution supporting housing as a human right which their organization worked on and helped draft. Haukeness indicated that OWH feels the resolution would bring together the various issues contributing to homelessness in the city of Madison and provide the groundwork for future discussion and policy change. Commissioners asked several clarifying questions and both Commissioners and guests agreed that the resolution would attempt to provide a solid plan for addressing homelessness in Madison, namely by forming a City-County coalition to address homelessness that would include hired staff to support its mission. Haukeness added that the Wisconsin Association for Tenant Rights (WATR) and the Affordable Housing Action Alliance (AHAA) are also working to gain state-level support for this endeavor.

Benford moved and Walsh seconded that the Commission move on to Item 5 at this time in order to discuss it with their guests present. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

#### DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. [23825](#) That housing be recognized as a human right, and that the City of Madison will work with Dane County, surrounding municipalities, and community partners to develop a Housing Plan and address housing issues in the region.

**Attachments:** [Housing as a Human Right reference materials.pdf](#)  
[People's Affordable Housing Vision.pdf](#)  
[Housing Plan & address housing issues in the region Res 23825.pdf](#)

The Commission recognized that the EOC has a collective mission to assure that people are not marginalized. A coalition such as that proposed by this resolution would help assure that people have safe and secure places to live. Thus, the EOC should support this idea. Commissioners also praised the current text's openness to the contribution of different perspectives, although Grogan pointed out that any benefit to private investors or landlords did not seem to be addressed and that such language would significantly enhance the resolution. The Commission agreed that appealing to the private sector would probably be the role of the coalition, though the EOC might add a statement of rationale to the resolution to this effect. Commissioners and staff discussed their options and it was moved by Benford, seconded by Walsh, to support the concept behind the resolution at this time, while recognizing that any changes to the resolution text would be made once CDBG and Housing have made their motions on the item. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

Grogan also read the following statement into the record as a possible statement of rationale to add to the legislation:

"Strong, progressive and forward-looking communities have a vibrant and diversified local economy with active local housing options that address

housing needs and provide access to capital to invest in real estate while providing a variety of housing options for residents."

**Benford left the room briefly at 5:49 p.m. All Commission business was halted as the Commission lost its quorum.**

- Present:** 6 -  
Coco Bustamante; John L. Quinlan; Sean A. Saiz; Katherine Cramer Walsh; Thomas R. Grogan and Benjamin M. Nerad
- Absent:** 1 -  
Charles E. McDowell
- Excused:** 3 -  
Brian L. Solomon; Brian Benford and Donna V. Hurd

**Benford returned at 5:49 p.m. The meeting resumed.**

- Present:** 7 -  
Coco Bustamante; Brian Benford; John L. Quinlan; Sean A. Saiz; Katherine Cramer Walsh; Thomas R. Grogan and Benjamin M. Nerad
- Absent:** 1 -  
Charles E. McDowell
- Excused:** 2 -  
Brian L. Solomon and Donna V. Hurd

**The Commission thanked Haukeness and McGee for attending, and they left at this time.**

6. [23004](#) Opposing Senate Bill 107 and the provisions that eliminate the authority of cities to enact equal opportunity and non-discrimination ordinances with respect to landlord-tenant relations.

**Attachments:** [https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2011/proposals/sb107\\_memo\\_aca\\_mades\\_housing\\_pre-emption\\_bill.pdf](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2011/proposals/sb107_memo_aca_mades_housing_pre-emption_bill.pdf)  
[sb 107 resolution draft.pdf](#)  
[sb 107 resolution 2nd draft.pdf](#)

**This Resolution was Refer to the COMMON COUNCIL**

## REPORTS

7. [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.*

**Bustamante reviewed her notes and minutes from the July 14 EOC meeting. Nerad added that there has been a lot of discussion on the UW-Madison campus as to whether or how student IDs could be used to vote.**

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8. [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.*

Nuñez reported that Mayor Soglin has made public the City's operating budget. DCR was pleased to find that its cuts were relatively minimal, although members of the attorneys' union -- to which the EOD's Hearing Examiner belongs -- may be required to take 20 furlough days. The Council will hold its budget deliberation meetings on November 15, 16, and 17, if needed.

The Clerk's Office conducted mock elections this week for training purposes. People "voting" brought in all kinds of different IDs to provide election officials with a wide variety of experiences. The Clerk found that voting will take longer than it previously did, with an average waiting time of about one minute per person in line. In addition, staff from the DCR, Mayor's Office, and Clerk's Office will be holding a Civic Forum on October 26 at the Urban League (2222 S. Park St.) at 7 p.m. in order to educate the public on Voter ID requirements and to recruit for City commissions, committees, and boards.

An issue that has recently been in the news has been some Madison bars' use of drivers' licenses or passports only in permitting entrance to customers, to the exclusion of state-issued or other forms of ID. The Mayor's Office has set up a meeting for next week on the subject.

There is a bill before the State Assembly (AB 286) proposing to eliminate conviction record protections in employment. The Commission agreed to put this item on the next Executive Committee agenda.

Thanks to Walsh, UW-Madison student Will Porter has joined the EOD as an intern. Ford added that Porter has been focusing on developing information for students on Voter ID requirements, though this has been difficult as the information keeps changing. In the meantime he has been providing updates and resources to students and getting the word out about the Civic Forum.

9. [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 on Oct. 3 due to lack of quorum.**
- b. Ford reported that the Employment Committee conducted a retreat at which they set up their goals for the upcoming year.**

10. [13853](#) APPEALS COMMITTEE REPORT

For information only. No action required.

Benford reported that the Committee met on Sept. 8 and affirmed the Hearing Examiner's Decisions and Orders affirming findings of No Probable Cause in both MEOD Case No. 20102028, Howard v. Woodman's Food Market, Inc., and 20102001, Stern v. Goodwill Industries of South Central Wisconsin, Inc.

11. [12507](#) COMMON COUNCIL UPDATE--For information only. No action required.

*Ald. Brian Solomon will provide an update on Common Council actions since the last Commission meeting.*

The Commission agreed to skip the Council report as Ald. Solomon was not present.

12. [15741](#) INTRODUCTION OF FUTURE ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

It was agreed to add the following items for discussion to the next Executive Committee agenda: AB 286 (the bill proposing the elimination of conviction record protections in employment), bars' use of drivers' licenses and passports only in permitting admission, and Voter ID. It was also agreed to place Voter ID and Legis. File No. 23313, Black-owned nightspots in Madison, back on the EOC agenda for discussion.

13. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Benford, seconded by Walsh, the meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

Minutes submitted by Rachel Campbell, Administrative Clerk.