



# City of Madison

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

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Thursday, November 21, 2013

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

Meeting was called to order at 5:02 P.M. with Secretary Quinlan presiding. The following attendance was noted:

Present: John Quinlan, Bill Fetty, Kathy Cramer, Sean Saiz, Shawn Peters, Anita Weier, David Bolles, Charles McDowell and Narendra Sinha

Excused: Hedi Rudd, Brian Benford

Staff: Lucia Nuñez, Eric Kestin, Charlyn Cruz-Nuñez and Alyssa Riphon

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Cramer moved to approve minutes from the September 12, 2013 meeting. Commissioner Fetty seconded the motion, which was passed by voice vote/other.

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Peters spoke in support of agenda item number six, "Discussion: Homelessness in Madison". He spoke to the Commission about issues people without homes confront, such as the limitations of shelter.

Ms. Dapin spoke in support of agenda item number six, "Discussion: Homelessness in Madison". She spoke to the Commission about perception with regard to people without homes. Ms. Dapin also spoke about issues surrounding shelter, specifically for single women without homes.

Mr. Schooler spoke in opposition of agenda item number five, 31080, "Amending Section 39.03 of the Madison General Ordinances to add unemployment as a protected class". He spoke to the Commission about issues that could form as a ramification of approving the item, such as setting a precedent for homelessness as a protected class.

After the public finished their comment, the Commission held a brief discussion which addressed Mr. Schoolers concerns about agenda item number five, 31080, "Amending Section 39.03 of the Madison General Ordinances to add unemployment as a protected class".

### 4. DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

5. [31080](#) Amending Section 39.03 of the Madison General Ordinances to add unemployment as a protected class.  
  
**Sponsors:** Anita Weier  
  
**A motion was made by Alder Weier, seconded by Commissioner Cramer, to Recommend to Council to Adopt - Report of Officer. The motion passed by voice vote/other.**
  
6. Discussion: Homelessness in Madison  
  
**Steve Schooler from Porchlight and Amber Thompson from YWCA attended the meeting to discuss homelessness in Madison. Each presenter pointed out the benefits and possible ramifications for adding homelessness as a protected class, and then facilitated a discussion surrounding homelessness in Madison.**  
  
**At 5:46 P.M., Alder Weier left the meeting, but quorum was not affected.**
  
7. [31806](#) EOC Executive Committee Election  
  
**Commissioner McDowell nominated Commissioner Bolles to fill the at-large member vacancy on the EOC Executive Committee. No other Commissioner was nominated for the position. Commissioner Fetty moved to add Commissioner Bolles to the EOC Executive Committee by acclamation. Commissioner Cramer seconded the motion, which was then passed by voice vote/other.**
  
8. [31858](#) EOC Employment Subcommittee Election  
  
**Commissioner McDowell nominated Commissioner Peters and Commissioner Saiz to fill the two at-large member vacancies on the EOC Employment Subcommittee. No other Commissioners were nominated for the positions. Commissioner McDowell moved to add Commissioner Peters and Commissioner Saiz to the EOC Employment Subcommittee by acclamation. Commissioner Cramer seconded the motion, which was then passed by voice vote/other.**
  
9. [31805](#) Equal Opportunities Commission Retreat  
  
**Referred to the Executive Committee meeting scheduled on December 2, 2013.**

**REPORTS**

10. Director's Report

Ms. Nuñez reported to the Commission on the following topics:

- Described the WCCF "Race to Equity: A Baseline Report on the State of Racial Disparities in Dane County" to Commissioners
- Department of Civil Rights 2014 budget
- December 3rd, 2013 Common Council meeting: honoring resolution for the 50th anniversary of the Equal Opportunities Ordinance; reception on December 12th
- Commissioner Benford resignation active on January 1st, 2014
- EOC vacancies

11. President's Report

In the President's absence, Ms. Nuñez described the "Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice" (AI) Study, CDBG: October 2013 Council Review Draft and its relationship to the Equal Opportunities Commission.

12. Committee Reports

A report was giving from the Humanitarian Award Commission by Commissioner Quinlan. Humanitarian Award nominations are open until December 20st, 2013. Applications and information are available at: <http://www.cityofmadison.com/dcr/commMLK.cfm>

13. Appeals Committee Report

The next Appeals Committee meeting will be taking place on Friday, December 6th. In lieu of the two vacancies on the Commission, Alder Weier has been assigned by staff as an at-large representative for this committee. Commissioner Sinha has been assigned by staff as the at-large alternate representative.

14. Common Council Report

In the absence of Commissioner Weier, the Common Council report was referred to the EOC meeting taking place on Thursday, December 12, 2013.

15. **FUTURE TOPICS FROM THE FLOOR**

The Commission requested a future presentation by Jason Glozier, Department of Civil Rights Disability Rights and Services Program Coordinator.

16. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Fetty, seconded by Commissioner Cramer, to adjourn at 6:36 P.M. The motion passed by voice vote/other.