



City of Madison

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

Meeting Minutes - Approved EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION

Thursday, July 14, 2011

5:00 PM

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

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Nia Enemuoh-Trammell, President.

Present: 7 -

Brian L. Solomon; Nia Enemuoh-Trammell; Coco Bustamante; Bert G. Zipperer; Katherine Cramer Walsh; Charles E. McDowell and Benjamin M. Nerad

Absent: 2 -

John L. Quinlan and Donna V. Hurd

Excused: 3 -

Brian Benford; Amanda L. Harrington and Thomas R. Grogan

Staff: Rachel Campbell and Ariel Ford

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Zipperer, seconded by Walsh, the June 9, 2011 minutes were approved without correction. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

4. DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. [23009](#) Employment Subcommittee New Member Application: Ellen Molitor

Attachments: [emp comm app molitor.pdf](#)

On a motion by Zipperer, seconded by Nerad, Ellen Molitor's application to become a voting member of the EOC Employment Subcommittee was approved. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

John Quinlan arrived at 5:07 p.m.; Mayoral Liason to DCR Astra Iheukumere arrived at 5:09 p.m.

Present: 8 -
Brian L. Solomon; Nia Enemuoh-Trammell; Coco Bustamante; John L. Quinlan; Bert G. Zipperer; Katherine Cramer Walsh; Charles E. McDowell and Benjamin M. Nerad

Absent: 1 -
Donna V. Hurd

Excused: 3 -
Brian Benford; Amanda L. Harrington and Thomas R. Grogan

6. [21989](#) April EOC Term Expirations and Executive Committee Membership -Enemuoh-Trammell

Campbell directed Commissioners' attention to the paper ballots distributed, explained the voting process, and answered questions. Ford requested additional nominations from the floor for each position. None were offered. Commissioners anonymously filled out and submitted their ballots and Ford left the room to tabulate the results.

7. [23004](#) SB 107, Relating to Prohibiting Ordinances that Place Certain Limits on Landlords

Attachments: 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](#)

Enemuoh-Trammell and Zipperer reported that Assistant City Attorney Adriana Peguero spoke at the June 27 Executive Committee meeting on this topic. This legislation would impact and inhibit MGO 39.03 and other housing-related Madison Ordinances by rendering protections that go beyond State laws unenforceable. Specifically, as outlined in ACA Mades' memo (see attached), 39.03's Social Security Number protections, source of income protections, and arrest record and conviction record protections would all become unenforceable. Peguero informed the Committee, however, that the City will probably not remove these protections from the books as the legislation may be reversed through the courts or through future legislation.

Tom Grogan arrived at 5:16 p.m. Enemuoh-Trammell welcomed Grogan to the EOC and conducted a round-robin introduction of Commissioners and staff. DCR Director Lucia Nuñez arrived at 5:27 p.m.

- Present:** 9 -
Brian L. Solomon; Nia Enemuoh-Trammell; Coco Bustamante; John L. Quinlan; Bert G. Zipperer; Katherine Cramer Walsh; Thomas R. Grogan; Charles E. McDowell and Benjamin M. Nerad
- Absent:** 1 -
Donna V. Hurd
- Excused:** 2 -
Brian Benford and Amanda L. Harrington

Before returning to discussion on Item 7, Ford announced the results of the Executive Committee election:

President: Bustamante
Vice-President: Benford
Secretary: Quinlan
Member-at-Large: Hurd
Member-at-Large: Nerad

The new officers were congratulated and Commissioners returned to discussing Item 7.

Commissioners discussed their options, and Ald. Solomon offered to sponsor a resolution from the EOC denouncing this legislation. It was decided that it was appropriate and within the scope of the EOC's mission to defend its Ordinance through a resolution, and Grogan volunteered to draft this document. Quinlan volunteered to assist and to take the draft to the Executive Committee for approval. On a motion from McDowell, seconded by Bustamante, the Commission agreed to appoint Grogan to draft a resolution defending the EOC's long successful history of progressively protecting the rights of Madison's citizens, and to appoint Quinlan to assist in composing the draft and to present it to the Executive Committee for approval. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

8. [21574](#) 2011 Wisconsin Act 23 -- the "Voter ID" Legislation

Attachments: [sb 6 milwaukee article.pdf](#)
<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2011/related/acts/23>

Nuñez reported that a soft rollout of the Voter ID requirements was supposed to take place with this week's recall elections. The reports that City staff have received, however, indicate that the requirements were not implemented uniformly. Nuñez and Ford will attend a debriefing on this subject conducted by City Clerk Maribeth Witzel-Behl on July 18th, as will staff from the Mayor's and Attorney's Offices.

Mayoral, DCR, and Attorney staff have been conferring with Disability Rights of Wisconsin, ACLU, and other organizations on tracking and acting on complaints. Ford and Nuñez are putting together language to present to the CPD, AAC, and EOC stating the importance of this issue in terms of protecting civil rights, and EOD staff continue to work on a leaflet or card to distribute to voters explaining how to obtain an ID. City staff members are also looking into implementing observers at the polls and/or at DMVs in order to better track and

follow up on possible disenfranchisement.

Discussion ensued on the possibility of seeking an injunction against this law, and Nuñez reported that the Mayor's, Clerk's, and Attorney's Offices are looking into this. The repercussions of not implementing the law at all would constitute a felony, as well as possible jail time for the City Clerk and the nullification of Madison's votes. The Attorney's Office is exploring its options, however. These legal actions are well outside of the DCR's scope, but while this is happening EOD is working on education and outreach. On a motion from Zipperer, seconded by Walsh, the Commission agreed to do everything within its powers to protect and defend people's right to vote. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

At 6:00 p.m., Enemuoh-Trammell announced that she needed to leave. As her term has expired and this was her last meeting with the Commission, she made her farewells. Commissioners and staff thanked her for her service. Ald. Solomon also left the meeting at 6:09 p.m.

Present: 7 -

Coco Bustamante; John L. Quinlan; Bert G. Zipperer; Katherine Cramer Walsh; Thomas R. Grogan; Charles E. McDowell and Benjamin M. Nerad

Absent: 1 -

Donna V. Hurd

Excused: 4 -

Brian L. Solomon; Nia Enemuoh-Trammell; Brian Benford and Amanda L. Harrington

REPORTS

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 Enemuoh-Trammell was no longer 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.*

In addition to the issues already discussed, Nuñez reported that DCR staff is currently examining its budget. All City agencies have been directed to reduce their budgets by 5%. Mayor Soglin has organized budget strategy meetings to examine the consequences of a multitude of options, from furloughs to alternative health plans to altering agency services. The Mayor and Council leadership have also organized a series of community meetings to field the

public's opinion. The DCR's meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on August 1 in Olbrich Gardens.

Ford added that the EOD has submitted 60 cases toward its 69-case contract with the EEOC and is considering asking for an increase.

11. [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 report was skipped as its discussions were already addressed.
- b. Ford reported that the Employment Committee held their Annual Retreat on June 9 and will meet again in September.

12. [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 Common Council report was skipped as Ald. Solomon was no longer present.

13. [15741](#)

INTRODUCTION OF FUTURE ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

Zipperer addressed the Wisconsin State Journal article on black-owned nightspots (see attached) and presented a 1997 report he was involved in as a member of the EOC Ad Hoc Committee on Alcohol Licensing and Traffic Stops of African Americans. The Commission agreed that the Executive Committee would take up this topic as an item for discussion on their next agenda.

SB 107 (Legis. File No. 23004) and the Voter ID Act (Legis. File No. 21574) will appear on the next EOC agenda as items for discussion.

14. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion from Walsh, seconded by McDowell, the meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.