



City of Madison

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

Thursday, November 20, 2008

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, Bert Zipperer presiding, at 5:05 p.m.

Present: 7 -

Coco Bustamante; Bert Zipperer; Erika H. Braunginn; Brian L. Solomon;
Brian Benford; Katherine Cramer Walsh and Megin H. McDonell

Excused: 4 -

Nia Enemuoh-Trammell; Lauren M. Woods; Carousel Andrea S. Bayrd and
Steven H. Morrison

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Benford, seconded by Walsh, to Approve the Minutes.
The motion passed by voice vote/other.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMMUNITY EVENTS--For information only. No action required.

On December 3, the Boys and Girls Club of Allied will hold a Job Fair from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m.

First Harvest and the Atwood Community Center are partnering to pack Thanksgiving baskets. Donations and assistance will be welcome.

REPORTS

5. [08355](#) PRESIDENT'S REPORT--For information only. No action required.

Bert Zipperer, 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 as "New Business" on the next agenda.

Zipperer reported that he had attempted to attend the Public Safety Review Board meeting on November 17 regarding the proposed amendments to the Chronic Nuisance Ordinance. However, the meeting had been cancelled. Wick will notify Commissioners when this meeting is rescheduled.

Zipperer attended the Common Council Organizational Committee Subcommittee on Committee Creation and Committee Rules on November 18. He spoke on the need to allow boards, commissions and committees to be able to get ordinance language drafted without Common Council sponsorship. The Committee was not particularly receptive to the idea.

6. [09307](#) INTERIM DIRECTOR'S REPORT--For information only. No action required.

Larry Studesville, DCR Interim Director, will report on the following:

- a. *His activities and meetings since the last meeting.*
- b. *Update on staff activities.*

Wick reported for Studesville in his absence. She explained that Studesville was staffing the meeting of the Commission on People with Disabilities. She distributed a report showing progress made by Clifford Blackwell, Hearing Examiner, in clearing up the backlog of hearings on the merits and no probable cause reviews. A copy of the report is attached.

7. [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.*

No report.

8. [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.

Solomon reported that the primary activity has been the 2009 Budget. Some funding has been restored for homeless outreach, eviction prevention and the Community Services Budget. The Weed and Seed Coordinator was restored with funding for a full time position beginning in July. The major area of concern is the likely increase in bus fares. A public hearing is scheduled for Monday, November 24 at 6:00 p.m. at Monona Terrace. Solomon is looking for ways to mitigate the impact of the shortfall of funding for the transit system that will likely force a bus fare increase.

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 "New Business" on the next agenda.

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

a. EOC Executive Committee--The Executive Committee met on November 3. The Committee reviewed the status of pending projects and approved the agenda for this meeting. In addition, the Committee discussed ideas for Commissioner education and is looking at expanding the coverage of requests for Social Security Number in the Equal Opportunities Ordinance.

b. EOC Employment Committee--McDonell attended the November 6 EOC Employment Committee meeting. This was a working meeting with the Committee breaking down into subcommittees to work on outreach and educational sessions for members. The December meeting will include a presentation on age discrimination.

The Committee co-sponsored a very successful session on diversity in the workplace. The Society for Human Resource Management was the other sponsor. Speakers were Gladis Benavides and Peter Bye. Over 70 individuals attended.

Beginning in 2009, the Committee will meet at noon on the second Thursday of each month. McDonell will be able to attend these meetings, but would be happy to share the assignment.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

11. NEW BUSINESS

[12897](#)

Rules for Appeals

A draft has been prepared by staff which is being reviewed by the City Attorney. These rules should be ready for the EOC Executive Committee to review at its December meeting.

[12898](#)

Discuss Holding Public Hearing(s) on First Year of Chronic Nuisance Ordinance

The Ordinance sunsets in September. Commissioner Morrison had suggested holding public hearings on its impact. Solomon stated that the EOC has not received complaints. He is not sure people would come or even know what it is. He does not believe the Common Council will let the ordinance die. The Council may even want to strengthen it. Commissioners wondered if there is a way to get input other than through a public hearing. Solomon suggested that

summer might be a good time for whatever activity the Commission wants to take on. Several options were suggested including input via email, a targeted mailing soliciting opinions or a door-to-door survey.

12. [00997](#) **CLOSED SESSION**

The Commission will convene in closed session pursuant to sec. 19.85(1)(c) state stats. to consider cases on appeal.

This item was referred to the EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION's next meeting.

[12897](#) Rules for Appeals

[12898](#) Discuss Holding Public Hearing(s) on First Year of Chronic Nuisance Ordinance

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Solomon, seconded by Braunginn, to Adjourn. The motion passed by voice vote/other.

Minutes prepared by Cynthia L. Wick, Department of Civil Rights