



City of Madison

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

Thursday, January 10, 2013

5:00 PM

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

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

President Brian Benford called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present: 11 -

Brian L. Solomon; Hedi L. Rudd; Brian Benford; John L. Quinlan;
Katherine Cramer Walsh; Shawn F. Peters; Brandon M. Johnson; William
(Bill) Fetty; Charles E. McDowell; Narendra Sinha and Benjamin M. Nerad

Excused: 1 -

Sean A. Saiz

Commissioner McDowell arrived at 5:02 p.m.; Commissioner Quinlan arrived at
5:05 p.m.; Commissioner Solomon arrived at 5:15 p.m.

Staff: Rachel Campbell, Eric Kestin, Marcus Miles, and Lucía Nuñez

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion from Walsh, seconded by Fetty, the November 8, 2012 minutes
were approved without correction. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

4. DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. [28158](#) Housing and homelessness in Madison

Attachments: [kestin homelessness presentation handouts.pdf](#)

Kestin presented on the topic of housing and homelessness. (See attached handouts.) Kestin reported that there has been activity nationwide regarding hate crime protections for the homeless and other related legislation, though this activity is almost universally taken on the state level as it typically involves changes in police activity and law enforcement, voting rights, housing codes, and other areas that are outside of municipal jurisdiction. Kestin also highlighted some activity taken by organizations as alternatives to legislation, such as housing studies and recommendations. Finally, Kestin pointed out that the EOC already introduced a resolution which passed the Council in November, 2011 recognizing housing as a human right. Commissioners asked Kestin some clarifying questions and discussion ensued. On a motion from Fetty, seconded by Solomon, the Commission agreed to form a subcommittee to address the homeless issue by speaking with homeless leaders and homeless advocacy groups, and to then present these findings to the Commission entire. Motion passed by voice vote/other. Benford, Solomon, Fetty, and Sinha volunteered to serve on this subcommittee. The Commission thanked Kestin for his presentation and Kestin left at this time.

6. [28531](#) State of Wisconsin Senate Bill 207 Resolution

Attachments: [110812 EOC Employment.pdf](#)
[24960.pdf](#)

On a motion from Nerad, seconded by Walsh, the Commission approved the draft SB 207 resolution and referred it to the Common Council. Motion passed by voice vote/other.

REPORTS

7. [08357](#) DIVISION MANAGER'S REPORT--For information only. No action required.

The 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.*

Miles reported that the Division has submitted 17 cases toward its 2013 EEOC contract, and that incoming 2013 complaints are typical in number and content. Investigators are conducting upcoming trainings, including on hate crimes, and the Division will be a keynote speaker at the MUM re-entry service fair on January 22.

8. [13093](#) DIRECTOR'S REPORT--For information only. No action required.

The DCR Director will report on the following:
a. Activities and meetings since the last meeting.
b. Update on agency activities.

Núñez reported on the Affirmative Action Division's activities regarding targeted businesses and on the City's newly-approved disparity study.

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.

Benford reported that Occupy Madison will hold a public meeting on Saturday, January 12 regarding a house purchased for possible SRO use on Fordem Avenue. CDBG will also be addressing this issue at their next meeting, on January 17. Benford also reported that he has spent time speaking with the homeless at the warming shelter and encouraged other Commissioners to do so as well.

10. [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. There was no Executive Committee meeting scheduled prior to this meeting due to the holidays.

b. Rudd reported that the DCR's Disability Rights and Services Program Coordinator, Jason Glozier, spoke at today's Employment Committee meeting on disability and employment.

11. [26541](#) Diversity in Entertainment Venues

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.

Rudd reported that the Subcommittee decided not to hold a formal public hearing but rather to approach City Channel and WYOU regarding the feasibility of producing a call-in TV and radio show that would also stream online. The Subcommittee is otherwise delaying any activity on this for the time being while the Commission focuses on homelessness and other issues.

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.

Ald. Solomon reported that his proposed low-income job specialist position did not pass the Council, and that regulations against panhandling have increased.

13. [28160](#) ANNOUNCEMENTS--For information only. No action required.

Ald. Solomon announced that he got married in December. Rudd announced that on January 24 the South Madison Promise Zone will hold an innovation team meeting. Rudd also announced that she is once again a grandmother, and that she will be attending the presidential inauguration. Quinlan announced that on February 12 the United Nations will hold a presentation at Edgewood College regarding LGBT rights, and on February 13 he will be the keynote speaker at the Minority Affairs Committee meeting.

14. [15741](#) INTRODUCTION OF FUTURE ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

The Commission requested that a discussion item on the Diversity Picnic be added to the next Executive Committee and Commission agendas.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion from Rudd, seconded by Fetty, the meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.