



# City of Madison

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

## Meeting Minutes - Approved EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION

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Thursday, March 12, 2015

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 5:07 P.M. by Bill Fetty, Chair. Attendance followed:

Present: Bill Fetty, Moriah Grace, Charles McDowell, Sean Saiz, Kathy Cramer, Alder Anita Weier, Corinda Rainey-Moore, Kira Stewart, Susan Schmitz, and Adam Brabender

Excused: John Quinlan and Percy Brown, Jr.

Staff: Lucia Nuñez (Director, Dept. of Civil Rights), Adriana Peguero (Assistant City Attorney), Charlyn Cruz-Nuñez (Investigator, Dept. of Civil Rights), and Alyssa Riphon (Investigator, Dept. of Civil Rights)

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Susan Schmitz moved to approve the minutes of the February 12, 2015 Equal Opportunities Commission meeting. Adam Brabender seconded the motion. Alder Weier moved to amend the motion by including a clause regarding the gathering of feedback from the EOC Employment Subcommittee prior to approval in paragraph four under item number eight. The amended motion passed by voice vote/other.

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

### 4. DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

There were no disclosures or recusals.

### DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

5. [37017](#) Amending Section 39.03 of the Madison General Ordinances to add atheism as a protected class.
- Sponsors:** Anita Weier and Ledell Zellers
- Attachments:** [Version 1](#)
- Danielle Dieringer reported to the Commission about the recommendation of the EOC Employment Subcommittee. The commission discussed the definition of Atheism and ways to expand the definition to include all people without religion.
- Alder Anita Weier moved to approve with the amendment to change the definition of “Atheism” to “Non-Religion” in order to protect a broader group of people. The motion was seconded by Adam Brabender. The commission continued a discussion on this item.
- Aye:** Adam Brabender, Alder Anita Weier, Kathy Cramer, Sean Saiz, and Moriah Grace  
**No:** Corinda Rainey-Moore, Susan Schmitz, Chuck McDowell  
**Abstain:** Kira Stewart
- Motion carries.
6. [37018](#) Amending Section 39.03 of the Madison General Ordinances to add homelessness as a protected class
- Sponsors:** Anita Weier and Marsha A. Rummel
- Lucia Nunez explained the various recommendations by other commissions and committees, including the expansion of protection to the area of public accommodations, as well as creating a broader definition of homelessness.
- Moriah Grace moved to accept the recommendations from other commissions and committees and refer the item to the EOC Employment Subcommittee meeting for April. The motion was seconded by Susan Schmitz, which was passed by voice vote/other.
7. [37555](#) Follow-up discussion of Young, Gifted, and Black presentation and planning next steps
- The commission reviewed the presentation of Young, Gifted, and Black Coalition and discussed the way in which the Equal Opportunities Commission could act as a facilitator of dialogue in the community. Community policing, incarceration, and restorative justice were brought forth for future discussion and/or action.
- The commission decided to schedule a special meeting within the next two weeks to begin work focusing on this item.

8. [37554](#) Approving a press release drafted by the EOC Executive Committee reminding the Madison community to vote in April elections

**Attachments:** [DRAFT Madison Equal Opportunities Commission Urges People of Color to \(](#)

The commission put forth edits for the press release. Charles McDowell moved to approve the press release with agreed-upon editions. Alder Anita Weier seconded the motion, which passed by voice vote/other.

Susan Schmitz moved to refer the remainder of the agenda to the April Equal Opportunities Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Kira Stewart, and passed by voice vote/other.

## REPORTS

9. Director's Report

This item was referred to the April meeting of the Equal Opportunities Commission.

10. President's Report

This item was referred to the April meeting of the Equal Opportunities Commission.

11. Committee Reports

This item was referred to the April meeting of the Equal Opportunities Commission.

## 12. FUTURE TOPICS FROM THE FLOOR

- New respite center presentation for the April meeting (to be reviewed by the EOC Executive Committee)

## 13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

This item was referred to the April meeting of the Equal Opportunities Commission.

## 14. ADJOURNMENT

Charles McDowell moved to adjourn the meeting of the Equal Opportunities Commission at 7:28 P.M. The motion was seconded by Alder Anita Weier, and passed by voice vote/other.