

City of Pekin Human Rights Committee Minutes

December 16, 2015; 7:30am; City of Pekin Council Chambers

I. Welcome and introductions Meeting called to order by Danielle Owens at 7:30 am. Present: Brian Byrne, Melinda Figge, Bill Fleming, Roger Goodson, Lynne Johnson, Danielle Owens, Linda Seth, Adrienne Southerland, and Pamela Anderson.

II. Approval of minutes (September 2015) The minutes of the September 2015 meeting were approved on a motion by Figge and second by Goodson.

III. Correspondence and feedback – None

IV. Old Business

- A. Bridges Out of Poverty (update) – two successful Day 1 workshops were held with 15 attendees in each session, including several from the city staff. Anderson will be seeking city council approval to continue to offer the workshops.
- B. Night Out Against Crime (wrap up)- Lynne Johnson and Melinda Figge worked the booth that was shared with the YWCA. Figge has an idea for next year – a peace chain.
- C. Pekin Reads program (wrap up)- “To Kill A Mockingbird” went well. There was good participation and good attendance at the events. The library would like to partner again next year.
- D. Dirksen sign (Broadway) – The sign is up on Broadway near the Dirksen Center and it looks great. There are still two others to erect, but we'll probably wait until spring.

V. New Business

- A. MLKJ luncheon (Peoria) – Pamela invited committee members to sit at the City's tables. She still has tickets available.
- B. MLKJ celebration (Pekin) – Melinda report the Coalition for Equality/YWCA will host their free event on Saturday, January 16th at 10am. It will be held at Grace United Methodist Church. Chris Velio (sp?) will perform songs of the Civil Rights Movement and students from Willow School will also perform. There will be free books for kids and gift bags for the students from Willow.

VI. Other business to come before the committee

A. Committee members

- a. Goodson noted Illinois American's efforts to increase their use of minority vendors. They recently held a networking event that helped identify additional vendors and opportunities.

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B. Committee advisory members - none

C. City staff

- a. Anderson will invite Chief Dossey to attend our meetings
- b. No one has contacted Denise La Grassa for a workshop approved in September. Figge will follow up with Shannon Cox and LaGrassa
- c. The City's budget includes \$2,000 in CDBG and \$2,000 in city funds that are available for HRC projects and events.

VIII. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned † 8:05 am. The next meeting is scheduled for 7:30am on February 24, 2015.

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