

**CITY OF BLUE SPRINGS, MISSOURI
MINUTES OF HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION TASK FORCE
FEBRUARY 25, 2021**

A meeting of the Blue Springs Human Relations Commission Task Force was held on Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. with Dr. Warren Haynes presiding.

Pursuant to Jackson County Executive Order dated November 18, 2020 and any subsequent amendments and Phase 2.5 of the Eastern Jackson County Recovery Plan limiting public gatherings, the Task Force members participated in this meeting via video-conference and telephone to ensure safe social distancing measures were taken as provided in Sections 610.020(1) and 610.020(4) RSMo. The public was able to attend via telephone conference.

TASK FORCE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE	Dr. Warren Haynes, Chair	City Councilmember Galen Ericson
	Richard Mitchem	City Councilmember Kent Edmondson
	Rachel Williams	City Councilmember Susan Culpepper

Task Force Member Nichlaus Stephens - ABSENT

Also present were City Attorney Jacqueline Sommer, Police Chief Bob Muenz, Captain Jeff Sargent, and City Clerk Sheryl Morgan.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER	Chair Dr. Warren Haynes called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
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CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM	City Clerk Sheryl Morgan confirmed a quorum of the Task Force was present.
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APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Member Edmondson moved to approve the Minutes of the January 28, 2021 Task Force meeting. Motion seconded by Member Ericson and carried unanimously.
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MISSOURI COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS SPEAKER CONTRACT	City Attorney Jacqueline Sommer stated the contract to have a representative of the Missouri Commission on Human Rights attend a meeting of the Task Force did not get executed in time to have a representative at this meeting. We will anticipate the speaker to attend the next meeting.
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DR. EMMANUAL NGOMSI CONTRACT	The Task Force discussed the five-year contract with Dr. Emmanuel Ngomsi which ends in March of 2021 and whether the services are still needed. The contract calls for \$500 per month for consulting services. After discussion, the Task Force did not make a recommendation. Dr. Ngomsi's contract will expire in March, 2021.
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CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES ON HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION	City Attorney Sommer stated she shared the section of the Code establishing the HRC so that all Task Force members have it available for review for this and future meetings in order to determine what, if any, amendments the Task Force would recommend.
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HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION FOCUS POINTS	The City Councilmembers outlined their experiences with the HRC and discussed the low attendance at the events, despite the City and Commission's efforts to advertise the events. The Councilmembers suggested the HRC not meet unless there are specific agenda items
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to review, and discussed the HRC involvement in issues within the School District and whether the School District should be removed from Section 120.530.A.3 of the Code.

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION SCHEDULE AND AGENDAS

The HRC currently has a meeting scheduled monthly. Member Ericson stated that he felt the Council and City Staff should establish an agenda prior to each HRC meeting and if there are no items, the HRC would not need to meet. The Task Force discussed the current meeting structure for the HRC.

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSIONS MINUTES

City has all of the Minutes and Agendas from the HRC and other boards and commissions on the City's website at www.bluespringsgov.com/agendacenter. City Clerk Sheryl Morgan will compile all of the previous Agendas and Minutes and send to the Task Force members for ease of review.

PUBLIC COMMENT

HRC Member Leslie Gleason stated there are two licensed counsellors currently serving on the HRC.

Jacquelyn Langston was present and is the liaison for the Blue Springs School District to the Task Force to give perspective.

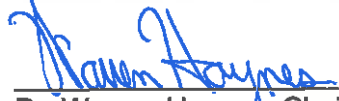
NEXT MEETING

The Task Force members agreed to schedule the next meeting on Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business to come before the Council, Task Force Member Mitchem moved the meeting be adjourned. Motion seconded by Member Edmondson and the meeting was declared adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

BLUE SPRINGS HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION TASK FORCE



Dr. Warren Haynes, Chair

ATTEST:



Sheryl Morgan, City Clerk