

**Human Relations Board
Battle Creek City Hall
10 N. Division St.
Room 302A
&
Virtual-ZOOM
Wednesday February 15, 2023
4:00 P.M.**

Board Members Present: Kathy Szenda Wilson, Deana Spencer, Chris Lussier, Donald Woodward (aka Pao Shan), Joe Hooper, Jeffrey Cotton (4:08 pm) and Boonikka Herring, all attending in person. Rebecca Fleury, Keona Ackley, Whitney Wardell Derrick Freeman and Lyanne Wesley all attending remotely from the City of Battle Creek.

Staff: Deputy Clerk, Alicia Greene; Interim Police Chief, Bagley; DEI Officer, Kimberly Holley; Code Compliance Manager, Jason Francisco and Community Services Director, Marcie Gillett.

Guests: There were none.

Board Members Absent: Comm. Ballard, Jennifer Gregor and Emirrora Austin.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:01pm.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Joe Hooper, supported by, Boonikka Herring, to approve the Human Relations Board minutes of January 25, 2023. All yes, none opposed. Motion approved.

Communications: There were none.

Committee Reports: There were none.

Old Business: Mr. Woodward (aka Pao Shan) provided an overview of the progress made with the CRB workgroup proposal.

Ms. Fleury and Chief Bagley attended a meeting with the NAACP discussing the creation of a CRB. Ms. Fleury noted the City Commission will hold a workshop in April to discuss proposals.

The Board would like to connect with individuals from the NAACP to collaborate.

New Business: Ms. Szenda Wilson introduced Jason Francisco and Marcie Gillett who provided a Code Compliance presentation.

Mr. Francisco reviewed many of the challenges city residents encounter and how the City approaches concerns. Mr. Francisco shared information on available programs, many of which are underutilized by citizens.

Mr. Francisco shared the success of the home paint program that had been offered in previous years, hoping to find a new supplier and make the program available again.

Ms. Gillette in response to Ms. Wardell, provided information on the status on the Hotel/Motel communal kitchen project. Ms. Gillett noted forward progress, the policies and procedure are currently being reviewed by the Legal Department and there will be an upcoming meeting with all 14 owners to see who will be interested in investing.

Ms. Gillett, reviewed the process of notifying residents of an ordinance violations and reviewed the rental property inspections process.

Ms. Gillette and Mr. Francisco reviewed the enforcement and court hearing processes.

Community Points of interest: There were none.

Public Comments: There were none.

Board Comments: There were none.

Next meeting: The next meeting of the Human Relations Board March 15, 2023 @ 4:00pm in Room 302A and available by Zoom.

Adjournment: Ms. Kathy Szenda Wilson adjourned the meeting at 5:05pm.