

HUMAN RELATIONS BOARD

WEDNESDAY, January 17, 2024

4:00 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.

Hybrid Meeting

Battle Creek City Hall

10 N. Division Street

"To increase constructive communication among all people regardless of actual or perceived race, ethnicity, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, height, weight, marital status, physical or mental disability, family status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or socioeconomic status. To also increase constructive communication between residents, public officials, and community organizations, thereby promoting harmonious and productive relationships within the community, and equitable access to community resources for all."

A. INTRODUCTIONS

B. ROLL CALL

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. November 29, 2023

D. COMMUNICATIONS

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS

F. OLD BUSINESS

1. Community Oversight Board
2. Language Access

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Charge of Human Relations Board
2. 2024 HRB Calendar – new date for June meeting due to holiday
 - suggestion of Wednesday June 12, 2024

H. COMMUNITY POINTS OF INTEREST – OPEN DISCUSSION

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

J. BOARD COMMENTS

K. NEXT MEETING – February 21, 2024

L. ADJOURNMENT

**Human Relations Board
Battle Creek City Hall
10 N. Division St.
Room 302A
&
Virtual-ZOOM
Wednesday November 29, 2023
4:00 P.M.**

Board Members Present: Kathy Szenda Wilson, Chuck Asher, Joe Hooper, Josita Todd, and Deana Spencer (4:21pm), - all attending in person. Donald Woodward (aka Pao Shan) attending remotely from the City of Kalamazoo. Keona Ackley, Derrick Freeman, Jeffrey Cotton (4:07pm), attending remotely from the City of Battle Creek.

Staff: DEI Officer, Kimberly Holley; Police Chief Bagley; Rebecca Forbes, Executive Assistant

Guests: There were none.

Board Members Absent: Boonikka Herring, Lyanne Wesley, Jennifer Metzger, Whitney Wardell

Ex-Officio: Rebecca Fleury, remotely from the City of Battle Creek and Comm. Roger Ballard, attending in person.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:00pm.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Keona Ackley, supported by Derrick Freeman, to approve the Human Relations Board minutes of September 20, 2023. All yes, none opposed. Motion approved.

Communications: There were none.

Committee Reports: There were none.

Old Business: Community Oversight Board (COB) updates provided by Kimberly Holley. Ms. Holley provided an updated draft of Chapter 286 to review with the HRB members.

Chief Bagley and Ms. Fleury commended Ms. Holley on her work around developing a COB and the Human Relations Board for providing recommendations regarding the COB.

Ms. Fleury invited any interested individuals to attend the City Commission Work Shop on December 5, 2023 at 5:30pm.

The Board discussed the proposed draft changes to Chapter 286.

New Business: Time/Duration of the HRB and Charge of the HRB discussion.

Ms. Ackley requested information be provided a day or two before the HRB meetings allowing members to review prior to meetings.

A motion was made by Chuck Asher, supported by Keona Ackley, to change the Human Relations meeting time to be 4:00pm to 5:30pm. All yes, none opposed. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Chuck Asher, supported by Deana Spencer, to accept the Human Relations meeting dates for 2024. All yes, none opposed. Motion approved.

Community Points of Interest: There were none.

Public Comments: There were none.

Board Comments: Ms. Todd requested all members receive a copy of the WE Upjohn Institute's report on Battle Creek. Ms. Fleury will distribute to members.

Deana Spencer and Derrick Freeman made suggestions for keeping meetings on task and moving through the agenda. Pastor Hooper invited all to attend a Kwanzaa Event on December 30th.

Next meeting: The next meeting of the Human Relations Board January 17, 2024 @ 4:00 pm in Room 302A and available by Zoom.

Adjournment: Ms. Kathy Szenda Wilson adjourned the meeting at 5:00pm.



**NOTICE
OF
HUMAN RELATIONS BOARD MEETINGS
FOR THE YEAR 2024**

To be held in-person at City Hall in Room 302A unless otherwise posted.

**BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN
4:00 P.M.**

January 17, 2024

February 21, 2024

March 20, 2024

April 17, 2024

May 15, 2024

June 19, 2024

July 17, 2024

August 21, 2024

September 18, 2024

October 16, 2024

November 20, 2024

No December meeting

Minutes of the Meeting may be obtained by contacting the City Clerk's Office.

The City of Battle Creek will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered in the meeting, upon notice to the City of Battle Creek. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the City of Battle Creek by writing or calling the following:

Victoria Houser
Office of the City Clerk
P. O. Box 1717
10 N. Division
Battle Creek, MI 49016
(269) 966-3348 (Voice/TDD)