

ADOPTED MINUTES OF THE GREENVILLE HUMAN RELATIONS COUNCIL

April 25, 2024

The Greenville Human Relations Council (GHRC) met Thursday, April 25th at 6:00 PM. The meeting was held in Conference Room 337, located on the third floor of City Hall. Members absent denoted by x.

John Porter- Acee-x
George Cherry-*
Camilya Jones-*
Franchine Peña-*
Tyrone Walston-*

Zykeiah Allen-x
Todd Fraley-*
Francisco Limon-*
Thomas Remington-*

Deninisa Allsbrook-*
Tyleik Harris-x
Antonio Milton-*
Procopio Serrano-*

Portia Willis, City Council Liaison-x Cassandra Daniels, Staff Liaison-*

Chairperson Franchine Philpot Peña called the meeting to order and **Cassandra Daniels, staff liaison**, called the roll and quorum was ascertained.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Thomas Remington, seconded by Tyrone Walston to approve the January 25th and February 15th, minutes of 2024 with any corrections if there be any. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Annual Award Ceremony - Feedback

Cassandra Daniels, Staff Liaison, reported the Annual Award Ceremony was held Saturday, February 24th the Greenville Convention Center at 5:30 pm. Members of the Council stated the event was a success. However, there were technology issues with video. Highlights of the event was the Best-Irons Individual recipient Isaiah Posey, the Best-Irons Business recipient, Pitt County 4-H Allstars and the Distinguished Inclusive Community Award recipient was ECU Student Government Association.

Fair Housing Month - Update

Staff Liaison stated the Fair Housing Seminar was great. The event was sponsored by the City of Greenville, Pitt County Government, GAPMA, Metronet, North Carolina Human Relations Commission, Brownlee Whitlow & Praet, and Online Rental Exchange. Fair Housing Proclamations were read by Mayor P. J. Connelly and County Commissioner Chris Nunnally. Sixty (60) participants attended.

NC – NAHRW (North Carolina National Association of Human Rights Workers Conference) - Update

Fair Housing Month

Cassandra Daniels stated the observance of Fair Housing Month is April 2024. The Human Relations Council and their partners (GAPMA – Greenville Area Property Managers Association

and Pitt County Human Relations Commission) will host the City's fair housing seminar on Thursday, April 18th. This event will take place at the Hilton. Additional information will be provided later.

Juneteenth Celebration

Cassandra Daniels stated the Council's Chair, Franchine Philpot Peña, is a part of the Juneteenth Committee and will represent the Council. The city is working in collaboration with the West Greenville Health Council. Juneteenth celebrations are scheduled for Wednesday, June 19th and Saturday, June 22nd.

At the January 25th meeting, the possibility of having a HBCU Drumline to perform at the Juneteenth event was discussed. Many thought it's a great idea; but, because schools are out for the summer and many students return home, the probability of them performing is slim to none. Unfortunately, this is the case, and we are unable to secure an HBCU Drumline for the event. Hopefully, there will be other opportunities and occasions for us to invite them. Also, staff has spoken with the Fashion Club at East Carolina University to see if they were interested. Again, the challenge is the same with students not being available for the summer. However, they are trying to accommodate us.

Chairperson Franchine Peña mentioned some of the activities that will take place at the event. There will be face painting, cultural Bingo, a gospel choir, Regina Garcia (spoken word), a number of dance groups (Katura and Hype), the South Central High School Drumline, bouncy houses, Drum Circle, fireworks and a number of other activities.

Council Member, Todd Fraley stated there is a group called FAME that consist of models and a new African America Dance Group at ECU. The African America Dance Group recently performed at ECU basketball game, and they are good. Cassandra Daniels stated she would try to make contact regarding their availability.

NEW BUSINESS

September 11: A National Day of Remembrance

Cassandra Daniels stated there has been a few calls (2 or 3 calls) regarding the September 11th event. The Council has sponsored events prior to COVID. Wednesday, September 11, 2024 will be the 23rd Anniversary. The question for the Council is, do they want to entertain doing an event, to honor, reflect and remember what happened at the World Trade Center? If so, details regarding the program and collaborating with others need the Council's attention. A motion was made by Procopio Serrano, seconded by Francisco Limon, that the Council give consideration to hosting a 9/11 event in September. Motion carried unanimously.

2024 Community Dialogues(s)

Staff Liaison, Cassandra Daniels stated the last community dialogue was held July 16, 2020, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church's Parish Hall. That dialogue was facilitated by Dr. Jennifer Copeland, Executive Director of the North Carolina Council of Churches and an ordained minister in the

United Methodist Church.

Community dialogues bring together the voices and talents across communities and provide a greater diversity of views that help generate ideas and solutions to relationships across those lines that keep us divided. Examples of topics the Council plan to focus on are: (1) human trafficking, (2) homelessness, (3) lack of affordable housing, (4) mental health issues, etc.

Staff Report

Cassandra Daniels stated in March, the Council will receive a report on the activities/work responsibilities of the office. The report will mainly provide information on tenant/landlord cases that staff handles.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, a motion was made by Francisco Limon, seconded by Antonio Milton. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Cassandra Daniels

Cassandra Daniels
Human Relations Officer