



ABSTRACT/SYNOPSIS OF THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE OFFICIAL ACTIONS OF THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WHITEWATER, WALWORTH AND JEFFERSON COUNTIES, WISCONSIN.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION MINUTES OF MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 2022

1. Call to Order and Roll Call –The virtual meeting came to order at 5:02 pm.

Present at the meeting were Common Council Representative Brienne Brown, Common Council Representative Lynn Binnie, Commission members, Maryann Zimmerman, and Ryatisima Blue. Commission member Dr. Kenny Yarbrough was absent from the meeting. Also present were staff support City Manager Cameron Clapper and Deputy Chief Dan Meyer.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from November 1, 2021 – Brown asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes. Zimmerman moved to approved the minutes with a second by Binnie.

Ayes: Brown, Binnie, Zimmerman and Blue

Noes: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Yarbrough

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

3. Hearing of Citizen Comments – There were no citizens in attendance.

4. Old Business

- a. Discussion and possible action regarding formal public announcement summarizing the findings from last meetings presentation by WWPD and WWPD's compliance with new state law – Clapper discussed the cover memo with draft information that would be given to the council along with the April 21, 2021 Report of the Assembly Speaker Task Force's Subcommittee on Law Enforcement and the Whitewater Police Department (WPD) Status of Compliance Report. Meyer said that there were a total of 18 recommendations by the committee and the WWPD is compliant with all of them, but seven are outside of the scope of the WWPD. Some of the recommendations are more for state level issues. Binnie appreciated the review and discussion. Zimmerman was impressed with the compliance from a small agency. Clapper asked Meyer to explain the departments complaint procedure. Meyer said anyone can come to the lobby and meet with a supervisor, submit online or make an anonymous complaint. Complaints are investigated and the complainant is notified (if known) about the results. If they are not satisfied they can contact the Police & Fire Commission. Clapper read a draft memo to the Common Council (link to memo can be found in agenda) referencing the presentation by the WWPD. Binnie asked for more specifics of what was reviewed and drafted some additions, which he shared with the commission. Commissioners asked that it not be too wordy, make it

succinct and possibly use bullet points. Clapper said he will make the changes discussed and send to the commission for feedback prior to bringing before the common council. Binnie made a motion to approve the letter and materials to be sent to the common council and as a result, provide to the community, recapping what happened with the presentation and materials supplied by the Whitewater Police Department at the September 21st EOC meeting, statements regarding the police department and importance of continuing to refine and implement policies and practices that promote diversity, equity and inclusion and incorporating edits as appropriate from commission members Binnie and Brown and a final email to all commission members to see the letter and materials prior to their submittal for common council review. Brown made a second.

Ayes: Brown, Binnie, Blue and Zimmerman

Noes: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Yarbrough

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

- b. Discussion concerning a format and procedure for reporting hate speech, wrongful discrimination, and non-compliance of social equity policies or standards. – Clapper said the form was included with the packet and this item would stay on the agenda until it was completed. Clapper said the form would be used for hate bias complaints and could be used if someone is hesitant to contact law enforcement. The form and more detail will be included at the next meeting.

5. New Business

- a. Discussion concerning transportation options in Whitewater, to include a presentation on the Ride Share Program. – Clapper said the Finance Director Steve Hatton wasn't available to attend, but reviewed the slide presentation. Clapper gave an explanation of the shared ride program, which is different than a taxi service. It is first come first serve and Brown Cab dispatches drivers. The service area is one mile around the city, which limits the service. The three vehicles are handicapped accessible. Brown asked if there is ridership data. Clapper said the grant is renewed every three to five years and ridership data is supplied. Clapper reviewed the fares and other inter-city services. Zimmerman asked if there was a bus to other areas. Clapper said that the public works director was part of a committee, but nothing definitive came of it. There is a shuttle from UW-Whitewater to UW-Rock County. Clapper said that Hatton would attend the next EOC meeting. Blue said her mother used the service and was surprised by the low cost. Brown said five wheelchair bound citizens previously complained about the service, but she hasn't heard from them lately. Zimmerman asked about minors using the service particularly after the after school program and Clapper said they can. Zimmerman mentioned getting the information out to parents

6. Future Agenda Items – Brown mention doing something for Black History month, offering educational resources and information. Binnie mentioned that possibly Dr. Yarbrough could give a brief synopsis on the state statutes dealing with hate speech.
7. Next Meeting Date – The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 7, 2022 at 5:00 pm.
8. Adjournment – Zimmerman made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Blue.

Ayes: Brown, Binnie, Blue, Zimmerman

Noes: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Yarbrough

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting ended at 6:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Boyd, Executive Assistant