



City of Detroit Human Rights Commission
Monthly Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, January 16, 2025

Time: 5:00 PM

Location: CAYMC 13th Floor Auditorium and Virtual

Scribe: Commissioner Mendoza

I. Call Meeting to Order and Roll Call

Present:

- a. Chair Mendoza
- b. Vice Chair Harris
- c. Commissioner Franklin
- d. Commissioner Paul
- e. Commissioner Carter
- f. Commissioner Singh
- g. Commissioner Olvera

Excused Absences:

- h. Commissioner Wright
- i. Commissioner Cole
- j. Commissioner Ross

II. Adoption of Meeting Agenda

- a. Agenda was adopted.

III. Approval of Minutes

- a. Commissioner Olvera made a motion to adopt. Commissioner Carter asked for an amendment regarding WSU grant to include College of Nursing language to his November updates.
- b. Upon that change, Commissioner Carter seconded the motion to approve the November minutes.

I. Commission Subcommittees Reports/Updates

II. Members Reports/Updates

- a. Chair Mendoza gave an update about potential collaboration with her Councilwoman Calloway of District 2.

- b. Vice Chair Harris gave an update on the supporting resident who submit complaints around the low power boxes in the neighborhood.
 - i. Chair Mendoza asked for a photo of the described box so other commissioners could be aware should it come up in the districts.
- c. Vice Chair Harris praised the CRIO team for organizing the annual Human Rights Awards in December, emphasizing the outstanding effort they put into curating the event.

III.

VII. CRIO Department Director Report

- a. Veterans' affairs department
 - i. Commissioner Olvera shared his involvement with veteran opportunities and sought to learn more.

I. Presentations, Hearings and/or Discussions

II. Unfinished Business

- a. Update from CRIO on backfilling commissioner positions

III. New Business

- a. February elections
 - i. Chair Mendoza reiterated the importance of the upcoming February elections and if individuals would like to self-nominate, that they were welcome to submit additional information regarding their candidacy ahead of the February meeting.
 - 1. Commissioner Franklin asked if Chair Mendoza was running, to which she replied if it was required, she would take on the roll of chair again.
 - b. 2025 meeting schedule
 - i. Commissioners Carter and Paul informed Chair Mendoza that, in accordance with the bylaws, meeting times and days are written into the bylaws and not voted on annually.
 - 1. Chair Mendoza thanks them for clarifying this matter.
- c. Subcommittees
 - i. Chair Mendoza encouraged commissioners to prepare for a February discussion on establishing new subcommittees that better align with CRIO's divisions.

- ii. Commissioner Paul suggested forming a subcommittee to brainstorm the development of these new subcommittees.
- iii. Chair Mendoza acknowledged the importance of this approach; however, she expressed concern about the potential timeline. Chair Mendoza strongly recommended setting a clear timeframe of 2-3 months for this effort, should the commission choose this method for structuring the subcommittees.
- d. Subject Matter Expert (SME) polling
 - i. Chair Mendoza noted the benefits of identifying each commissioner's subject matter expertise, passion-areas, and affiliated associations. She noted the value of this list to both commissioners and CRIO staff who may seek support in their own areas of exploration and professional development.
 - e. Opportunities to meet CRIO staff
 - i. Commissioner Paul noted her eagerness to get to know CRIO staff, noting there was not a holiday party this year as an engagement opportunity.
 - ii. Chair Mendoza acknowledged the variety of events hosted or supported by CRIO, many of which occur monthly, and where staff are present. She encouraged all commissioners to utilize these existing events as opportunities to network and engage with CRIO staff.
 - iii. Public Comment

XI. Adjournment