



CITY COUNCIL

Nominations & Appointments Committee

**Monday, May 16, 2016
Meeting Report**

Attendance: S. Marmarou, J. Slifko

Others Attending: S. Katzenmoyer

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 pm by Mr. Marmarou.

I. Interview

Valerie Phelps-Robinson (reappointment – Human Relations Commission)

Mr. Slifko questioned how long Ms. Phelps-Robinson has been serving on the Human Relations Commission (HRC). Ms. Phelps-Robinson stated that she has been a member for four years.

Mr. Marmarou questioned if Ms. Phelps-Robinson attended meetings regularly. Ms. Phelps-Robinson stated that she does and that she also volunteers in the office when she has time off.

Mr. Slifko questioned how often the HRC meets. Ms. Phelps-Robinson stated that they meet monthly.

Mr. Slifko questioned the types of cases the HRC reviews. Ms. Phelps-Robinson stated that the majority of the cases are housing and employment related. She stated that professional investigators give updates at the meetings.

Mr. Slifko questioned if the HRC then made the final decision on the case. Ms. Phelps-Robinson stated that they do not. She stated that the investigator and the executive director make the final determination.

Mr. Marmarou questioned if there was any assistance that the City could give to the HRC. Ms. Phelps-Robinson stated that the HRC needs another investigator. She stated that Ms. Talbot and Ms. Rivera do an excellent job but that an additional investigator would allow them to review

additional cases. She stated that this would also allow Ms. Talbot and Ms. Rivera to do additional outreach and work on other projects.

Mr. Marmarou questioned if HRC members needed special training. Ms. Phelps-Robinson stated that HRC members attended training in the past but that funding has been reduced and currently only staff attends training.

Mr. Marmarou questioned the most frequent type of case. Ms. Phelps-Robinson stated that the majority of the cases are housing related landlord/tenant disputes. She stated that staff is doing outreach to educate both landlords and tenants.

Mr. Slifko questioned if HRC members had a function beyond reviewing cases. Ms. Phelps-Robinson stated that they do. She stated that outreach is done on housing issues. She stated that the EEOC pursues employment cases.

Mr. Marmarou stated that there was a problem in the past with landlords mistreating off-campus Albright students. He stated that the HRC assisted the students.

Mr. Slifko questioned the process to file a complaint. Ms. Phelps-Robinson stated that the complainant visits the HRC office and describes the situation and completes the paperwork. She stated that the executive director then reviews the case to determine if the HRC can assist. She stated that HUD is then informed and the investigation begins when warranted. She stated that if the HRC cannot assist, the complainant is referred to the agency that can assist.

Mr. Marmarou questioned if Ms. Phelps-Robinson enjoys serving on the HRC. Ms. Phelps-Robinson stated that she does as it directly helps people.

Mr. Marmarou and Mr. Slifko thanked Ms. Phelps-Robinson for her service to the City.

The Nominations and Appointments Committee recommends the reappointment of Valerie Phelps-Robinson to the Human Relations Commission.

Mr. Daubert arrived at this time.

II. BAC Liaison Review

Mr. Slifko stated that Mr. Marmarou still needs to be appointed as liaison to the Stadium Commission.

Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that this issue will be discussed at the next Committee of the Whole meeting. She stated that at that time Council will determine who will serve as liaison to the remaining BACs (Stadium Commission, Shade Tree Commission, Human Relations Commission, and Planning Commission) and a resolution will be adopted by Council.

Mr. Slifko requested an email be sent to Council to determine who is interested in serving in these positions. Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that she will send the email.

Ms. Katzenmoyer reviewed the unique situation regarding an applicant to the Redevelopment Authority.

Mr. Slifko suggested that the applicant be interviewed prior to a decision being made.

Mr. Daubert suggested that the applicant may poison the authority board. Mr. Slifko disagreed and stated that the applicant brings fresh opinions and new points of view.

Mr. Marmarou stated that this would set precedent for other applicants.

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz arrived at this time.

III. Other Matters

- Mineral Spring Hotel

Ms. Goodman-Hinnershitz stated that she is aware of a woodworking business that must relocate. She stated that they are interested in this site.

Mr. Daubert stated that this will be discussed at the Standards of Living Committee meeting this evening.

- Posting of Properties

Mr. Marmarou stated that the policy has changed. There was a brief discussion. This will be addressed at the Standards of Living Committee meeting this evening.

The Nominations and Appointments Committee adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Shelly Katzenmoyer, CMC
Deputy City Clerk