



**Milwaukee County Human Rights Commission
August 31, 2015
Forest Home Public Library**

Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order at 3:36 pm by Chair Jason Rae.
 - a. Commissioners Present: Jason Rae, Rev. Willie Brisco, Supervisor Supreme Moore-Omokunde, and Danielle Bailey
 - b. Also present: Claire Zautke (County Executive's Liaison, Director of Community Relations), 15-20 members of the public
 - c. Members Excused: Martha Love and Lukisha Ramos

- II. Summary of Action since Last Meeting
 - a. Kathy Smith resigned from Commission. Currently we have an opening for one position.
 - b. The new County Executive Liaison, Ms. Claire Zautke, was introduced. She is replacing Ms. Rayna Andrews.

- III. Election of Commission Secretary: Motion to elect Danielle Bailey as Commission Secretary by Commissioner Omokunde, seconded by Brisco. All commissioners voted in favor.

- IV. Update on Meet the Commissioners Event
 - a. Due to lack of resources, a social event is not possible at the time, but Commissioner Bailey suggested that the Commission (in its entirety or in groups) attend targeted community events/panels and get on the agenda to introduce the Commission. She is looking to solicit suggestions of organizations, i.e. Coalition for Justice, NAACP, LGBT Bar Association, LGBT Community Center, etc. Please email her if you have any ideas
 - b. Having brochures for event appearances would be ideal- House of Corrections will print our brochure for free, should be done within the month per Commission Chair Rae.
 - c. Brisco – called for a budget from County, we need resources to have events build a presence in the community, legitimacy. Zautke stated that County Executive may want a budget/proposal for funding. Bailey & Rae to work on this together.

- V. Planning for International Human Rights Day on December 10
 - a. City is interested in partnering for event and Chair Rae will follow up with them.
 - b. Morning/Lunchtime event, more details to follow via email before October Meeting.

- VI. Presentation from Michael Rosen, AFT Local 212 President, on MATC Board
 - a. The Commission heard testimony from the following individuals: Dian Palmer, Keith Roberts, Chuck Goble, Tony Baez, Marietta Love, Julian Jasper Senior, and Samuel Alfred. General consensus was urging Commission to take active



- role on this issue, review law that changed MATC Board appointment & selection process, and reach a resolution urging County to work to restore the law
- b. Highlights from Rosen Testimony
- i. 1) MATC was targeted. Bill initially proposed for all technical colleges, but the rest were dropped 2) Result of law is that it has displaced 3 of 4 Afr. Amer (AA) members of the BOD so far, and the last one left is unlikely to be reappointed. AA's & others from County have been bypassed by Ozaukee & Washington County Executives, and Milwaukee County Executive. If Black Lives Matter, they should be serving on the BOD & be part of the appointment process.
 - ii. Asking of the HRC: Pass a resolution that condemns the changes to BOD Composition & Appt. process. Resolution should authorize/encourage Milwaukee County BOD & Executive to work with legislature to restore MATC BOD Composition that every other tech college has & restore appointment process (non-politicized per Dr. Roberts). Commission should take a position; and urge County Executive to appoint people from County & City of Milwaukee to MATC BOD.
 - iii. In last budget, law was changed again (SB-275, authored by Glenn Rothman, supported by A. Darling) to change definition of "employer". Current BOD member, only Latino, Grace Mazinet, was elected as Employer Rep (works at Master lock), and now with definition changing (One can only be ER rep if you hire/fire or run finances (i.e. HR, CFO, CEO)) it will make Grace ineligible for re-appointment.
 - iv. Rosen also mentioned that law requires that 1/3 of BOD membership be people of color. MATC students are people getting out of prison, underemployed, veterans, disenfranchised etc.- but MATC makes them feel welcome. This issue is pivotal to the black lives matter movement, and equity in representation of minorities on MATC BOD.
 - v. Representative Barnes has drafted legislation towards this aim, but hasn't been introduced yet.
 - vi. Coalition for MATC is the name of this movement pushing for changing the law.
 - vii. Fastest growing sector is healthcare not manufacturing, BOD had 2 manufacturing reps. on BOD, and a 3rd got appointed over Pasch (who had health expertise, when healthcare fastest growing) and another qualified AA candidate from Milwaukee County
- c. Commissioner Brisco asked for the Coalition for MATC to put their ask in writing and Rosen agreed.
- d. Commissioner Brisco moved that this issue be placed on the agenda for the next meeting to review resolution provided by Coalition for MATC and to take appropriate action at that time. Commissioner Bailey seconded and all present voted yes. Motion was adopted.
- e. Commissioner Omokunde moved, and Commissioner Bailey seconded, that the Commission express its support for MATC and its important role in the community and its commitment to ensuring this issue is appropriately addressed. All present voting yes.



- VII. Reports & Updates from Commissioners
 - a. Commissioner Omokunde wants to focus on Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement, and will bring forward items focused on police brutality, education, working in conjunction with Equal Rights Commission of City of Milwaukee, etc., to future meetings.
 - b. Commissioner Brisco mentioned Human Growth Foundation, which is trying to change the American narrative around the American Dream, i.e. hard work gets you ahead. BLM is not superseding other movements, and believes there is a need to address the narrative. He gave account with sacred conversations, and Commissioner Bailey suggested that perhaps we create forums to do similar work, for people to come together and openly address and discuss racism, perhaps this could be part of Commission Agenda/Mission.
 - c. Ms. Zautke gave introduction to Commission. Commissioner Bailey had asked for information about County's onboarding training from Ms. Andrews and Ms. Zautke said she would follow up.

- VIII. Announcements & Other Business: There was no other business before the Commission.

- IX. Meeting Adjourned at 5:15 p.m. Next meeting is Monday, October 26 at 3:30 p.m.