



## **Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes**

### **February 6, 2025**

#### **Call to Order & Roll Call**

Chair Philpot called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Present: Angela Caldwell, Reverend Dr. Orville Jones, Mark Philpot, Jake Reed, Reverend Carl Terry, Cecil Weathers, Dennis Williams,

Absent: Officer Peat, Whitney Thomson,

#### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the August 1, 2024 and September 5, 2024 meetings were presented for approval. Commissioner Weathers made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, which was seconded by Commissioner Williams. Motion carried.

#### **Public Comment**

Nancy Dean of 300 Locust Street appeared to discuss an issue with her rental property where the owner had terminated water service to force her out of the unit.

Lisa Wagoda discussed the process that tenants must go through to address unsafe living conditions. The city's process places all responsibility on the tenant and results in retaliation against tenants who file complaints.

A representative from Quanada appeared to inform the HRC that April is sexual assault awareness month. Quanada is developing training to assist in the identification of victims of sexual assault.

Brenna Hills informed the HRC that there will be a protest Sunday at Washington Park regarding suppression of human rights. Also, a candidate roundtable on housing issues will be held February 11<sup>th</sup> hosted by Q-RILE.

A representative from Quincy Public Library stated that freedom banners are display at QPL. The banners are on loan until June.

#### **Committee Reports**

Education Committee	Commissioner Williams indicated that Quincy Public Schools has partnered with Bella Ease to provide a 6-week parenting class.
Public Relations	Commissioner Terry summed up his report by stating the "everything is public relations."
Community Action	No report.
Housing	Chairperson Philpot deferred to the earlier discussion. Expressed hope the Jerry Gille would be in attendance at the next HRC meeting to provide an update.

**New Business**

Title VI Complaints                      None received

Late Additions                              None

**Commissioner's Comments**

Commissioner Weathers      Thanked Ken Hultz, Todd Eyler and others for participating in the HRC discussions. Noted that a presentation on the life of C.T. Vivian would be held on Sunday at the Quincy Senior Center. Ended his comments with "black history is everyone's history."

Commissioner Terry              With respect to the Safe & Livable Housing Committee, questioned what it the process after filing a minimum housing complaint. [Response – inspection by city staff; code violation notice issued to the landlord with copies to the tenant and advocate.]

Commission Reed                      Reminder to contact Quincy's social service agencies.

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 PM which was seconded by Commissioner Weathers. Motion carried unanimously.