

**Proposed Minutes for the June 18, 2024
Pitt County Human Relations Commission**

The Pitt County Human Relations Commission met on June 18, 2024 at 6:00 pm at the Eugene James Auditorium, with Chairwoman Jessica Williams presiding.

Members Present:

Mark Rasdorf, LGBTQ+
Carl Wilson, Town of Bethel
Toni Heffner, Town of Ayden
Carlton Dawson, At-Large
Luther Hemby, At-Large-Faith Community
Lucas Seijo, Town of Grifton
LaChauncey Staton, Sheriff's Office
Mary Perkins-Williams, Board of Commissioners
Sharon Rochelle, DSS
Veronica Roberson, Town of Winterville
Wes Gray, Public Health- Amanda Sparling was sent in place of Wes

Members Absent:

Shantel Hawkins, NAACP
Wes Gray, Public Health
Andrew Shue, Faith Community
Juan Garcia, LatinX
Nancy Ray, City of Greenville
Mary Moye, Town of Simpson
Byung Lee, Asian-American

Staff Members Present:

Jessica Williams, Community Relations Coordinator/Chairwoman
Florida Hardy, Asst. County Manager People & Community/HR Director

Call Meeting to Order

Chairwoman Williams called meeting to order at 6:05pm.

Roll Call

Community Relations Coordinator, Jessica Williams called the roll and stated there was a quorum.

Chairwoman Williams asked for a motion to excuse Juan Garcia, Nancy Ray, Byung Lee. Mr. Hemby made a motion to excuse Juan Garcia, Nancy Ray, Byung Lee. Councilwoman Roberson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Approval of May 21st minutes

Commissioner Perkins-Williams made a motion to accept May 21st minutes as presented. Ms. Rochelle seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Chairwoman Williams stated no one signed up for public comment.

Report of Community Relations Coordinator

Chairwoman Williams reminded the board that the July 16th meeting will be cancelled but there is a listening session scheduled that day and encouraged members to participate. The Commission will reconvene August 20th.

Old Business

The America 250 NC application was awarded to Pitt County and more information should be sent out soon.

New Business

Chairwoman Williams asked the Commission what their goals for the HRC are for this year.

Mr. Staton mentioned to continue with community engagement, spreading awareness of the HRC to the public, figuring out ways to get the public to the meetings for the public comment section.

Councilwoman Roberson asked if there is any way we can advertise the HRC maybe in the newspaper or TV. She also suggested t-shirts and nametags. Chairwoman Williams stated she would look into the process for that.

Committee Reports

- Executive- No update
- Youth Involvement-No update
- Community Issues and Actions-No update

Questions/Comments

Commissioner Perkins-Williams mentioned the issue of trash in certain areas in Pitt County. Councilwoman Roberson mentioned it may be that the trash site is far from those who live in the more rural areas of Pitt County and citizens may be more inclined to dispose of trash properly if there was a trash site closer to them.

Ms. Heffner asked what the subcommittees tasks were. Chairwoman Williams explained and stated we will be reconstructing them at the organizational meeting.

Ms. Rochelle asked what will be done with the feedback we receive from the listening sessions. Chairwoman Williams stated we will go over everything we received, look for trends, and figure out the best way to tackle the concerns.

Ms. Sparling mentioned Public Health is doing the community health needs assessments and they are receiving feedback from the community and would be a resource for the HRC.

Mr. Seijo mentioned there are a few environmental groups around Pitt County and the HRC could possibly work with them. He also mentioned maybe getting involved in registering citizens

to vote and encouraging people to vote. Chairwoman Williams stated she would look into it to make sure it is okay for the HRC to be involved.

Mr. Dawson mentioned having a community clean up day, maybe at a school first and branch out after that.

Mr. Staton mentioned he went to the Jackie Robinson ceremony and encouraged the members to check them out.

Mayor Wilson mentioned Bethel will be having fireworks on July 1st event will start at 6:30 at 7459 Mainstreet Bethel NC

Community Announcements

- Pitt HRC will be hosting a community listening session July 16th. 6pm-7pm at the Winterville Town Hall Assembly Room (2571 Railroad St. Winterville, NC 28590). Please continue to spread the word and share the flyers out. If you need physical flyers they are available at my office.
- Join the Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge and community for the dedication and celebration of the “The Paddock Public Art Sculpture on Dickinson Avenue” on Saturday, June 29 from 4pm – 5pm at 1006 Dickinson Avenue (parking in Downtown Greenville is FREE!)
- GTAC’s Annual Juneteenth Celebration 2024 Juneteenth Youth Talent Show and GTAC - Greenville Theatre Arts Center Community Day on the Block will be Wednesday, June 19th, 2024 from 5pm-8pm.
- Greenville Juneteenth Jamboree Saturday, June 22nd, from 4pm-9:30pm at the Greenville Town Common and Greenville Toyota Amphitheater, 105 E. 1st St., Greenville, NC 27858
- Greenville Juneteenth Jamboree Saturday, June 22nd, from 4pm-9:30pm at the Greenville Town Common and Greenville Toyota Amphitheater, 105 E. 1st St., Greenville, NC 27858

Adjourn

With no additional items of business to discuss, Commissioner Perkins-Williams called for a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Roberson seconded and it carried unanimously. Commissioner Perkins-Williams adjourned the meeting at 7:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jessica Williams
Jessica Williams, Community Relations Coordinator