

**Chairperson**  
Eduardo Rivera

**Vice-Chair**  
Cara Berg Powers

**Clerk**  
Jeffrey Miller



**City of Worcester  
Human Rights Commission**

**Members:**  
Harry Danso  
Kathleen Gervais  
Edward Kwiypup  
Mable Millner  
Edward G. Robinson  
Udeme Ukpog

**Meeting Summary  
Monday, November 5, 2012  
6:00 pm to 8:00pm  
City Hall – Esther Howland Chamber, 3rd Floor**

**Members Present:** Cara Berg Powers, Harry Danso, Kathleen Jervais, Jeffrey Miller, Mable Millner, Eduardo Rivera, & Edward Robinson

**Members Absent:** Edward Kwiypup & Udeme Ukpog

**Staff:** Jayna Turchek, Director of the Office of Human Rights and Disabilities

1. **Call to Order.** There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 6:15pm.
2. **Introductions (Commission Members and Guests)**
3. **Approval of September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Meeting Minutes:** Minutes passed as written (7-0-0).
4. **Old Business**
  - a) **Bi Annual E. Hawley Award:**
    - i. **Report from Subcommittee**

Location for the award ceremony will be either the Worcester Youth Center or Worcester State University. The flyer will be ready by tomorrow. One nomination for the award was received and ready to be reviewed. No essays were received. Ms. Turchek shared process of Advisory Commission on the Status of Women's Young Woman of Consequence Award process. Next time HRC may wish to consider outreach earlier and direct asks from school officials.
    - ii. **Award nominations**

One nomination received (past deadline). HRC may consider four nominees from 2010. Discussion as to whether to add additional nominees. Commission reviewed application and criteria for nominee Matt Feinstein. He was found to have met all three criteria. Ms. Berg Powers motioned to accept Matthew Feinstein as this year's honoree. Mr. Robinson seconded. Unanimous agreement. Ms. Turchek will mail Mr. Feinstein his notification letter.  
Recommendations for 2014: online submissions and start planning six months in advance.
    - iii. **Essay Contest** No entries received.



CITY OF WORCESTER HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
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**b) Youth & Human Rights: Report from Subcommittee**

Meeting did not take place this month. The Chair requests that all minutes be caught up and up to date. Brief discussion on direction and purpose of project commenced. Would like to support Center for Nonviolent Solutions in their work with youth and mediation in schools. Also would like to assist with development of educational materials and offer an award or certificate to students. Focus of educational materials is what are human rights and how are they present in their lives. Tabled until after next subcommittee meeting.

**5. New Business:**

**a) Review of City Human Rights Commission Ordinance**

Review of HRC meeting summary from 5/7/2007. Chair requests members to review/re-familiarize the past and current Human Rights Commission ordinances). There was a suggestion to create a document with 10 FAQs about the Human Rights Commission. Another question to consider is how can we more effectively influence public policy?

**b) Transgender Awareness**

November 20<sup>th</sup> is Transgender Day of Remembrance. Ms. Turchek suggested co-sponsoring a mayoral proclamation and it was unanimously agreed. Ms. Turchek would like to organize a housing discrimination training with a focus on transgender rights. She is in conversation with local groups to see who would be interested in hosting.

**c) Human Trafficking Awareness**

Ms. Turchek announced that plans are under way for the annual human trafficking awareness day in Worcester. This year the observance will be Friday January 11, 2013. The Commission unanimously agreed to co-sponsor this year's event which will include a press conference and training for community members. Ms. Berg Powers will look into whether Press Pass is interested in screening a film the night before.

**d) Mayor's Immigrant Forums**

Ms. Turchek announced the next Mayor's Immigrant Roundtable to be Thursday November 27<sup>th</sup> at 4pm in City Hall, Levi Lincoln room. She will attend.

**6. Commissioners' Report**

Commission members attended/participated in the following community meetings and activities this month:

- Film Screening on ethnic studies in Arizona hosted by Jobs With Justice, Press Pass and SIM (Student Immigrant Movement)
- CDAC public meeting on Community Development Block Grants (at All Saints Church)
- Indian Lake Crime Watch
- Howe Street Crime Watch
- Shrewsbury Street Crime Watch
- PFLAG
- Community Presentation on Bullying (Tuckerman Hall)
- Cambridge Street Crime Watch

Announcement: The Worcester Immigrant Coalition will give a presentation on the Home Rule petition to permit noncitizens to vote for local elections. Presentation will be on Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the Public Library.

**7. Office of Human Rights Director's Report**

Ms. Turcek brought the City's leaf collection and snow removal flyers along with Commission and Board applications for members to take and distribute at community meetings.

**8. Location of Next Meeting (December 3, 2012)**

**9. Public Comment (3 minutes per individual) None**

**10. 8:12pm Adjournment**

**City of Worcester  
Human Rights Commission**

**Planning Calendar**

**2nd Quarter (October-December)**

1. Youth and Human Rights
2. Bi Annual E. Hawley Award Ceremony

**3rd Quarter (January-March)**

**4<sup>th</sup> Quarter (April-June)**

**Subcommittee on E. Hawley Awards  
Monday, November 5, 2012  
5:00 - 6pm**

City Hall – Esther Howland Chamber, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
  2. Approval of September 24<sup>th</sup> & October 1<sup>st</sup> minutes
  3. Finalization of planning and preparation
  4. Adjournment
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**Human Rights Commission  
Monthly Meeting – Monday, November 5, 2012**

6:00 – 8:00 PM

Location: **City Hall –Esther Howland Chamber, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Worcester, MA 01609**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions (Commission Members and Guests)
3. Approval of September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Meeting Minutes
4. Old Business:
  - a) Bi Annual E. Hawley Award:
    - i. Report from Subcommittee
    - ii. Award nominations
    - iii. Essay Contest
  - b) Youth & Human Rights: Report from Subcommittee
5. New Business:
  - e) Review of City Human Rights Commission Ordinance
  - f) Transgender Awareness
  - g) Human Trafficking Awareness
  - h) Mayor's Immigrant Forums
6. Commissioners' Report
7. Office of Human Rights Director's Report
8. Location of Next Meeting (December 3, 2012)
9. Public Comment (3 minutes per individual)
10. Adjournment

The Human Rights Commission is dedicated to its service of safeguarding the civil liberties of all persons who live or work in Worcester. May the public kindly take notice to respect the order and decorum of the meeting. Please silence all cell phones and similar electronic devices. Refrain from speaking on cell phones or to others until recognized by the Chair that you have the floor.