City of Worcester
Human Rights Commission

Meeting Summary
Monday July 1st, 2013, 6pm
City Hall – Esther Howland Chamber, 3rd Floor

Members Present: Harry Danso, Julie Feeney, Jeremy Fontain, Kathleen Gervais, Edward Kwiyup, Eduardo Rivera, Edward G. Robinson, and Barbara Zerillo

Members Absent: None

Staff: Jayna Turchek, Director of the Office of Human Rights and Disabilities and Ryan Ollis, Intern

1. Call to Order:
There being a quorum the Chair called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

2. Introductions:
The Commission members introduced themselves.

3. Approval of June 3, 2013 Minutes:
Commission unanimously voted to approve the minutes as written.

4. New Business:
The Director made a request to take items out of order. The request was put to a motion and unanimously approved.

   a) Election of Officers: A motion made by Harry Danso was unanimously passed to postpone the election until next month because there are three new members to the Commission. A second motion was unanimously passed asking members to provide nominations for the positions of chair, vice chair, and clerk to the Director of Human Rights.

   b) PRIDE Celebration (September 7, 2013)
The Commission will march as a group at the PRIDE parade. Edward Robinson presented a donation of t-shirts to members to be worn at PRIDE. The Commission unanimously accepted the donation and agreed they would be worn during the parade.

c) Quarterly Newsletter

The Commission unanimously decided to create a quarterly newsletter.

5. Old Business:

a) Mediation Video
Commission members will find actors to perform the video in English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Twi. The taping of the videos will be in August and members will assist with the editing process. The Commission emphasized that this project demonstrated their interest and commitment to use mediation to solve local disputes.

b) Annual Report of the Commission
The Chair motioned to move this item to the August 5th Meeting. Motion unanimously passed.

c) Quarterly planning
Commission activities for the July-September quarter will include: the Community Reading for the Anniversary of Dr. King’s “I Have a Dream” speech, a LGBTQ resource guide, the Mediation Video, and the PRIDE parade and celebration.

The Commission plans to draft a Human Rights calendar that will identify signature Human Rights events for the August 5th meeting.

Quarter (October-December): Commission added Human Rights day celebration to Quarterly Calendar.

d) The Anniversary of Dr. King’s “I Have a Dream” speech (August 28th, 2013)
The Commission is organizing an event from 12:00-1:00PM in the Worcester Common to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation and the 50th Anniversary of Dr. King’s “I Have a Dream” speech. Jeremy Fontain volunteered to assist with the coordination and planning for the event.

e) LGBTQ education and awareness
The Commission is working to create an LGBTQ resource guide. A draft is expected to be prepared for the August 5th, 2013 meeting.

6. Commissioners’ Report:

Edward Robinson: June 15th attended LGBT festival, June 19th P-FLAG meeting, June 20th attended World Refugee day, attended Shrewsbury Street Association (neighborhood watch
meetings), June 22\textsuperscript{nd} Worcester Police gun buyback event, June 22\textsuperscript{nd} Juneteenth Celebration, June 27\textsuperscript{th} Clark University discussion of the film “Live free or Die,” June 30\textsuperscript{th} Worcester Asian festival.

Harry Danso: assisted a Ghanaian family adapt to American life through education and dialogue.

7. Office of Human Rights Director’s Report:
Introduced Office of Human Rights and Disabilities Intern, Ryan Ollis.

8. Next meeting: August 5\textsuperscript{th}, 2013 at City Hall

9. Public Comment
No public comment

10. Adjournment:
On a motion the meeting was adjourned at 8:03pm.
City of Worcester
Human Rights Commission
Planning Calendar

1st Quarter (July- September)

1. The Anniversary of Dr. King’s “I Have a Dream” speech (August 28th, 2013)
2. PRIDE Celebration (September 7, 2013)
3. Mediation Video
4. LGBTQ resource guide

2nd Quarter (October- December 2013)

1. Human Rights Day Celebration
AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions (Commission Members New and Old and Guests)
3. Approval of June 3rd, 2013 Meeting Minutes
4. New Business:
   a) Election of Officers
   b) PRIDE Celebration (September 7, 2013)
   c) Quarterly Newsletter
5. Old Business:
   a) Mediation video
   b) Annual Report of the Commission
   c) Quarterly planning
   d) 50th Anniversary of Dr. King’s “I Have a Dream” speech (August 28th, 2013)
   e) LGBTQ education and awareness
6. Commissioners’ Report
7. Office of Human Rights Director’s Report
8. Location of Next Meeting (August 5th, 2013)
9. Public Comment (3 minutes per individual)
10. Adjournment

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Commission will provide auxiliary aids and services, written materials in alternative
formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures to persons with
disabilities upon advance request. Please contact Jayna Turchek at 508-799-1152 or
humanrights@ worcesterma . go

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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.