

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**BELOIT EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION**  
**(Revised)**  
**Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at 5:30 PM**  
**The Forum, First Floor**  
**Beloit City Hall, 100 State Street**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call  
Chairperson Howland called the meeting to order at 5:33pm. Commissioners Howland, Gross, Atreche, Miller, and Councilor Blakeley were present. Commissioners Saffold and Mohorko were absent. Commissioner Saffold arrived at 5:38pm.
2. Approval of Minutes of the August 15, 2018 Meeting  
Commissioner Gross moved to approve the minutes from the 8-15-18 meeting. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed, voice vote.
3. Public Participation  
There were no members of the public present desiring to address the Commission.
4. Review of Recent Outreach Activities and Consideration of Future Activities, including EOC Workshops  
Councilor Blakeley mentioned an event the NAACP will be hosting on October 25, 2018 at the Eclipse Center. They will be hosting the Freedom Fund Banquet and the guest speaker is the first African-American student to attend the University of Mississippi. There is a suggested \$65 donation that includes a year membership to the NAACP and a subscription to the magazine.

Commissioner Saffold mentioned that the YWCA will be hosting an event on November 8, 2018. Racial Injustice will be held at Pontiac Convention Center in Janesville from 7:30am-2:30pm. There will be main speakers with time for participants to have smaller group discussions. Interested parties can register on the YWCA website.

5. Review of New EOC Subcommittees  
Commissioner Miller recently met with the Yellow Brick Road Organization. This organization has at least four members who would be willing to volunteer for the subcommittee. Commissioner Miller asked, on behalf of the organization, what the process would be for meeting. Ms. Downing explained the subcommittee has no limitations on when meetings can be held, there needs to be an agenda, and a public notice published.

Commissioner Gross also provided background on Courageous Conversations. They are held at the Merrill Community Center on the fourth Monday of every month at 4:30pm.

Commissioner Miller explained what the Equity Subcommittee would be doing regarding diversity and equity in businesses in the City of Beloit. She requested suggestions of organizations to contact to gauge interest and volunteered to draft an invitation email.

6. Update on Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Process and Review and Discussion of Impediments to Home Ownership and Affordable Housing in Beloit

Ms. Downing provided an update regarding the analysis. She explained that the City of Janesville will be taking a leadership role on having the analysis completed. It was also made clear that the City of Beloit needs to be reported on separately than the City of Janesville and the remaining communities in Rock County. As there are at least three different governmental entities involved, inter-governmental agreements needed to be completed before the analysis could move forward.

There will be a steering committee that will provide guidance to the consultant and it was requested that a member of the EOC volunteer to be on that committee. Commissioner Gross volunteered to be the EOC representative. Councilor Blakeley volunteered to serve as a back-up if needed.

Commissioner Howland mentioned the lack of resources for tenants interested in becoming home owners. He mentioned the Fairbanks Flats project as an example in that the Gorman Group is not necessarily following up on their promises.

Commissioner Miller suggested that the EOC prepares a brochure and works with an organization (that is already working with the target population) to spread relevant information. She also suggested that the City of Beloit has a link on the website that includes resources within the City.

Commissioner Howland requested that commissioners brainstorm manners in which the EOC could address impediments to home ownership and affordable housing.

7. Discussion and Recommendation to the City Council Regarding Recognition of Holidays

Commissioner Miller volunteered to include a list of impending holidays the EOC might desire to recognize in her email to the EOC members. The list would then be shared with City Council.

8. Review Recommendation of Proclamation Recognizing November as Homeless Awareness Month

Commissioner Gross volunteered to serve as back-up to receive proclamations at City Council Meetings. She also volunteered to compose a list of activities, events, etc. as well as contact information to share with the City Council.

The Commission discussed adding other organizations to the Proclamation by name and with a blanket statement involving any agencies that serve in that way.



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9. Commissioner Comments and Upcoming Events

Upcoming events were mentioned previously.

10. Next Regular Meeting Date: December 19, 2018

It was mentioned that this meeting could be rescheduled for an earlier or later date if the date wouldn't work well for commissioners considering it's close to holidays.

11. Adjournment

Commissioner Gross moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:40pm. Commissioner Howland seconded the motion. The motion passed, voice vote.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ashley Rosenbaum