



**Bloomington/Monroe County  
Human Rights Commission**

**June 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes  
Hooker Conference Room, City Hall  
5:00 p.m.**

The Bloomington/Monroe County Human Rights Commission met at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 17, 2024, in the Hooker Conference Room of Showers City Hall.

**Commissioners Attending:** Stephen Coover, Autumn Crisovan, Susan Gray (online via Zoom), Amy Jackson, Ryne Shadday

**Staff Attending:** BMCHRC Director Michael Shermis, Assistant City Attorney Audrey Brittingham, Assistant City Attorney Enedina Kassamanian, BMCHRC Assistant Annabelle Vosmeier, CFRD Interim Director Shatoyia Moss.

**Public Attending:** Tonda Radewan

---

**Call to Order:** Chair Shadday called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes of May 20, 2024 Meeting**

1. Coover moved to approve. Jackson seconded. Passed unanimously, 4-0.

**Report from Staff**

1. **Commission on the Status of Black Males Appointment:** The previous appointment was unable to attend meetings due to family obligations out of state and has resigned. A notice requesting applications has been put on Facebook and will be in the July newsletter.
2. **HRC Mayoral Appointment:** Former Commissioner Radewan has taken a new position at the City and therefore must resign from the BMCHRC. A notice requesting applications has been put on Facebook and will be in the July newsletter.
3. **Shatoyia Moss** introduced herself as the Interim Director of Community and Family Resources.

**Reports from Commissioners**

1. Commissioner Coover will be at the County Fair and will need 250 "What is Discrimination?" brochures. He handed out all the brochures he had at the MCPL Resource Fair two Saturdays ago.
2. Commissioner Shadday was on the 812 podcast with former city councilmember Steve Volan to speak about the BMCHRC. It will come out on podcast streaming services tomorrow.

## Open Cases

1. Coover's race discrimination case: We sent a significant request for information and interviews to the respondent and they requested a 30-day extension, which was granted due to the quantity of information requested.
2. Radewan's disability discrimination case: This case has now been appealed after a no probable cause finding. Radewan will attend as the former investigating commissioner and Commissioner Shadday will chair. The appeal will be scheduled soon.

## Assignment of New Cases

1. No new cases to be assigned. Several complaints were brought up but did not follow through with starting the process. (Gender identity discrimination in public accommodation, reverse racial discrimination in public accommodation, disability discrimination in employment.)

## Unfinished Business

1. **Safe Haven from Anti-Transgender Laws:** The resolution was passed by City Council, 8-0! Commissioners decided not to amend the BMCHRC's resolution formally to match the City Council's version precisely: It is not necessary, the two versions are very similar, and we were aware that revisions would be made by the Council.

Commissioner Jackson stopped by Starbucks on the way to the meeting and the barista was very excited to tell her about the resolution even though she didn't know that Commissioner Jackson was on the commission.

Commissioner Gray took the resolution to Penny Githens but hasn't heard back; Githens has now lost her primary. Director Shermis has a different contact with the County whom he can contact.

The Deputy Mayor asked to organize a proclamation to be read at PrideFest on September 14. Representatives of the trans community will speak first and introduce the Mayor to give the proclamation. London Montgomery and Lilliana Young were put in contact with the PrideFest organizers.

Commissioner Shadday asked commissioners to consider whether there are other resolutions we can work on that would benefit the community the way this one did.

2. **Community Meetings on the New Proposed Location for Monroe County Jail:** Commissioner Gray attended the meetings and took notes, which she shared. The area they are looking at is on the highway and Curry Pike extension. Neighborhood representatives are concerned about safety. Designers talked about screening and safety measures. Some suggested redoing the old jail, but this is not possible. The location is not good for transportation (to court dates, once released). Other locations also have problems. Commissioner Shadday expressed the problems with releasing people with few or no resources onto the busy highway with no sidewalks or transportation.

**New Business**

1. Handed out badges for commissioners to wear at official events, to be returned when commissioners leave the commission.

**Public Input**

1. Radewan hopes that the new commissioner replacing her will be BIPOC.

**Adjournment:** Chair Shadday adjourned the meeting at 5:38 p.m.