

TOWN OF HAMDEN

HUMAN RIGHTS AND RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 9, 2012
7:00 PM

PARKS & RECREATION CONFERENCE ROOM
HAMDEN GOVERNMENT CENTR
2750 DIXWELL AVENUE
HAMDEN

Commissioners in attendance: Steve Wilson, Chairman
Wanda Harris
Dakibu Muley
Garciella Zinn

Others in attendance: Peggy Craft, Acting Commission Clerk

Due to the lack of a quorum the meeting could not be called to order.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance was taken as noted above.

There was a discussion, led by Ms. Zinn, regarding a repeal of the death penalty in Connecticut. Ms. Zinn distributed a fact sheet regarding this subject. She said the bill is in the Judiciary Committee and will then go to the Legislature. She noted that two years ago then Governor Rell vetoed the bill. She added that Governor Malloy has indicated that he will not veto the bill if it reaches his desk. Ms. Zinn urged those present to contact their legislator to support the bill. Ms. Zinn said if this bill does not pass it will not be raised again for many years.

Mr. Wilson discussed the ripple effect the death penalty has on the family of a person condemned to death. It was also noted that there have been 140 people who were convicted of a number of crimes but were later found to be innocent, and released after many years of imprisonment. There have also been cases where innocent people were executed. Mr. Wilson said there is a need for more police patrols, especially foot patrols.

Mr. Wilson said at the next meeting, with or without a quorum, those present would discuss agenda items.

Ms. Harris said she did follow-up with Hamden High School regarding Black History month, but was not successful. She said there would be a program next Wednesday at Hamden Middle School.

Mr. Wilson said he would seek permission from the administration to conduct meetings with or without a quorum. He will discuss this with the Mayor. He will also send a letter to all the members of the Commission stressing the importance of establishing a quorum, and asking if they wish to continue serving on this Commission.

The informal meeting ended at 7:25 PM.

Submitted by _____
Peggy Craft, Acting Commission Clerk