

City of Salisbury Human Rights Advisory Committee (HRAC) Meeting Minutes Date: May 14, 2025 Time: 6:01 PM – 6:58 PM Location: HQ Conference Room

Members Present: Julie, Suzi, Jenn, Demetria, Rachael, Natalie

Others Present: Angela Blake, City Council Liaison Jessie Turner, City Staff Liaison Members of the public

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM.

2. Approval of April Minutes

Motion to approve the April minutes by Julie, seconded by Suzi. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Election of Vice Chair

Demetria self-nominated for the position of Vice Chair. Motion to accept the nomination made by Suzi, seconded by Natalie. Vote: 3 in favor, 1 abstention. Outcome: Demetria elected as Vice Chair. **4. Community Survey Discussion**Committee reviewed the community survey draft presented by Natalie via Google Docs.

- Angela recommended coordinating with other municipal or county human rights committees to identify existing tools and survey models.
- A list of human rights concerns was brainstormed during the meeting; an "Other" option will be included for anything missed.
- Demetria raised the question of how the survey will be distributed to the community.
- Julie suggested using ChatGPT to assist in analyzing the collected data.
- Jessie will need the final draft of the survey.
- A member of the public asked how the committee plans to incentivize survey participation.
- Natalie raised the idea of participating in Salisbury's 3rd Friday event for face-to-face engagement.

5. Committee Effectiveness & Public Feedback

- A member of the public expressed concern that the committee is not currently flourishing.
- Natalie acknowledged limited meeting time and capacity, emphasizing the advisory nature of the committee.
- Example discussed: A crosswalk proposal that was not implemented.
- Demetria noted that the proposal was not acted upon by the City Council or Mayor.

6. Final Survey Deadline

Motion by Julie to finalize the community survey by June 2, 2025, seconded by Suzi. Motion passed unanimously.

Natalie will send the finalized version to Jessie.

7. City Council Liaison

- Julie inquired about the engagement status of the City Council liaison, citing a lengthy absence.
- She noted that Angela's previous attendance had added valuable insight.
- The committee discussed the potential need to request a new liaison, as the current representative works on Wednesday evenings.
- It was noted that she remains available via email or cell phone.

8. Other Committee Discussions

- The Habitat for Humanity presentation was postponed.
- Crosswalk: Discussion of a prior incident and public comments.
- Concerns were raised about the Mayor stating that the committee advised him, which the committee disputes.
- Angela commented that the membership application process has not been properly managed.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 PM.