

CITY OF PEORIA

FAIR EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION

April 10th, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Sherry Carter-Allen, called to order the regular meeting of the Fair Employment Commission at **4:30 pm** on April 25th, 2025. In Person Meeting Held in Room 110, City Hall.

Melodi Green, as City of Peoria-Staff Liaison, conducted a roll call. **The following persons were present: Commissioners—**Sherry Carter-Allen (Chair); Commissioner Carl Holloway (Vice Chair); Commissioner Brittany Strickland; Commissioner Solivian Dismuke; Commissioner Ronald Ruffin.

Absent Excused: Commissioner Moore; **Quorum Established.**

Non-Commissioners Present: Janel Gomez, Chief DEI Officer, City of Champaign, IL.

I. New Business:

- a. Presentation: Janel Gomez: Janel Gomez, DEI Chief for the City of Champaign presented to the commission the structure of the City of Champaign's Human Rights Commission and its complaint intake process. Janel spoke about initiative that the group is working on including an event in October that our commission has been invited to attend and possibly assist with. Janel expressed that their commission is finding ways to carry forth its work, but she acknowledges the barriers and difficulties associated with HRC work.

II. Old Business: NONE

- ### **III. Discussion:**
- Chair Carter-Allen Shares thanks Champaign DEI officer Janel Gomez for her appearance and thanks Attorney Green for her work in procurement and we are not behind as a community in procurement work. Discussion about contractors regarding PeAP are considering small businesses and minority businesses are continuing.

Champaigns CDAP program is like our PeAP process, and their list is comprehensive. There is not an immediate way to catch the information about who visited the website however Mr. Gabe Jaja may be able to gauge who has visited the PeAP site. Contractors who would like to find businesses under city and county projects. Contractors are becoming more engaged as well.

Commissioner Strickland: What would the criteria that may be too stringent in Champaign be?

Attorney Green: I am happy to receive questions and forward any to Chief Gomez. This work is difficult work in terms of barriers that are deep and far spread historically.

Chair Carter-Allen: Could commissioner Strickland circulate a draft of the pamphlet so that we can receive Commissioner input. Networking at the PeAP was amazing.

Commissioner Strickland: I transmitted what I had for the pamphlet to Commissioner Moore. Commissioner Strickland will forward that pamphlet to Attorney Green. In terms of the Expo, there was a colleague from Chase Bank who was very impressed with the Expo and the importance of the event. Commissioner Strickland reported on the banking and financial panel, but turnout is difficult, and we should engage people in the main room at some point.

Chair Carter- Allen: The procurement equity group is now working on a fall event dealing with the public works department and there is already planning for another event in March and in the fall

IV. **Adjournment:**

Chair Carter Allen Calls for a motion to adjourn; Moved by Commissioner Dismuke and seconded by Commissioner Ruffin; **Meeting adjourned at 5:29 pm.**

