



**Human Relations Commission - Regular Session Agenda
Community Room 1, 2nd Floor, Bloomington Public Library
205 E. Olive St., Bloomington, IL 61701
Thursday, May 14, 2026 - 4:30 PM**

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Public Comment

Individuals wishing to provide emailed public comment must email comments to publiccomment@cityblm.org at least 15 minutes before the start of the meeting. Individuals wishing to speak in-person may register at cityblm.org/register at least 5 minutes before the start of the meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes

- A. **Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the April 9, 2026, Regular Human Relations Commission Meeting.** (Recommended Motion: The proposed Minutes be approved.)

5. Regular Agenda

- A. **Overview of the Human Relations Commission's role and community engagement during the early 2000s by Otis Evans.** (Recommended Motion: None; Presentation Only.)
- B. **Presentation providing an update on Bloomington Human Relations Commission Discrimination Complaints by Gregory Wilson.** (Recommended Motion: None; Presentation Only.)
- C. **Consideration and action on the question of whether probable cause exists to support a hearing in the matter of Hicks v. RCS Management.**
Option 1 - Finding Probable Cause: The Commission finds that probable cause exists regarding the complaint filed by Laquita Hicks and direct the matter be scheduled for a formal evidentiary hearing pursuant to § 22.2-110 F (1) of the Bloomington City Code.
Option 2 - Finding No Probable Cause: The Commission finds that probable cause does not exist regarding the complaint filed by Laquita Hicks and direct the matter be dismissed pursuant to § 22.2-110 F (2) of the Bloomington City Code. (Recommended Motion: Staff recommends that the commission consider one of the following two motions.)
- D. **Presentation providing an update on the Human Relations Commission retreat by Tony Jones and Uma Kailasam.** (Recommended Motion: None; Presentation Only.)

E. **Presentation providing an update on the 2026 Juneteenth Festival By Tony Jones.** (Recommended Motion: None; Presentation Only.)

6. **Old Business**

7. **New Business**

8. **Adjournment**

Individuals with disabilities planning to attend the meeting who require reasonable accommodations to observe and/or participate, or who have questions about the accessibility of the meeting, should contact the City's ADA Coordinator at 309-434-2468 or mhurt@cityblm.org.



MINUTES
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION - REGULAR SESSION
THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2026, 4:30 PM

The Human Relations Commission convened in regular session at 4:39 PM, January 8, 2026. Chair Anthony Jones called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Anthony Jones	Chair	Present
Rhonda Smith	Commissioner	Present
Amy Endicott	Commissioner	Present
Uma Kailasam	Commissioner	Present
Netia Carey	Commissioner	Absent
Mitchell D'rozario	Commissioner	Present
Kiranmayi Konam	Commissioner	Absent

Public Comment

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No public comments.

Approval of Minutes

The following item was presented:

Item 4.A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the April 9, 2026, Regular Human Relations Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Endicott made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kailasam, to approve the item as presented.

Chair Jones directed the clerk to call roll:

AYES: Jones; Endicott; Kailasam; D'rozario; Smith

Motion passed.

Regular Agenda

The following item was presented:

Item 5.A. Presentation providing an update on Bloomington Human Relations Commission Discrimination Complaints by Gregory Wilson.

Assistant Corporation Counsel George Boyle discussed an update to the commissioners regarding the next steps in the Harlow V. First Strike. George mentioned meeting with each party during the conciliation conference on March 25. George was unable to get the sides to agree to conciliation. City of Bloomington legal team will set up a hearing conference and send out updates to commissioners. Commissioner Kailasam mentioned getting the complaints before the meeting to allow time for commissioners to review.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.B. Consideration and action on the question of whether probable cause exists to support a hearing in the matter of Hicks v. RCS Management.

Option 1 – Finding Probable Cause: The Commission finds that probable cause exists regarding the complaint filed by Laquita Hicks and direct the matter be scheduled for a formal evidentiary hearing pursuant to 22.2-110 F (1) of Bloomington City Code.

Option 2 – Finding no Probable Cause: The Commission finds that probable cause does not exist regarding the complaint filed by Laquita Hicks and direct the matter be dismissed pursuant to 22.2-110 F (2) of the Bloomington City Code.

Commissioner Jones advised that he and Commissioner Endicott have reviewed the case and have requested additional details from both parties. Commissioner Jones asked to table the item to review the documents provided by Staff Liaison Gregory Wilson. Commissioner Jones mentioned there may be probable cause for discrimination based on tenants' households includes a child with autism spectrum disorder, which places them within a protected class under the Fair Housing Act. Commissioner Kailasam mentioned that she would like to be on the committee to review complaints.

Commissioner D'rozario made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Endicott, to table the motion until the next meeting on May 14.

Chair Jones directed the clerk to call roll:

AYES: Jones; Endicott; Kailasam; D'rozario; Smith

Motion passed.

Item 5.C. Presentation providing an update on Human Relations Commission retreat by Tony Jones and Uma Kailasam.

Commissioner Kailasam mentioned that she has been out of the country and will get with Commissioner Jones to plan the retreat.

Item 5.D. Presentation providing an update on the 2026 Juneteenth Festival by Tony Jones and Uma Kailasam.

Commissioner Jones mentioned the planning is going great for the Juneteenth Festival. Commissioner Jones mentioned Emily Bell as one of the Community Icon Award winners.

Item 5.E. Overview of the Human Relations Commission complaint investigation process by Emily Bell.

Commissioner Jones requested that Emily Bell be present to discuss the history of the Human Relations Commission complaint process. Emily Bell shared with commissioners on the history of the Human Relations Commission and things that have been done in the past.

Item 5.F. Overview of the Human Relations Commission's role and community engagement during the early 2000s by Otis Evans.

Commissioner Jones mentioned Otis Evans had a conflict and was unable to attend.

Old Business

New Business

Adjournment

Commissioner Endicott made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to adjourn the meeting.

Chair Jones directed the clerk to call roll:

AYES: Jones; Endicott; Kailasam; D'rozario; Smith

Motion passed.

Next Scheduled Meeting Date

May 14, 2026

Adjournment

The Meeting Adjourned at 5:35 PM

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

Anthony Jones, Chair

Gregory Wilson, Staff Liaison