



**CITY OF QUINCY  
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

730 Maine Street | Second Floor | Quincy, IL 62301  
Office: 217-228-4527 | Fax: 217-221-3608

---

---

# **Agenda**

## **City of Quincy Human Rights Commission**

**Quincy City Hall**

**February 1, 2018 | 6:30 p.m.**

**Call to Order** – Cecil Weathers, Chair

**Roll Call**

**Approval of Minutes** – Approval of the January 4, 2018 meeting minutes

**Public Comment**

**Old Business**

- Education Committee
- Public Relations
- Community Action

**New Business**

- Late Additions

**Commissioner's Comments**

**Adjournment**

**Next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 1, 2018**

*The Human Rights Commission works to provide leadership and advocacy to secure, protect, and promote human rights for all people. The Commission values the dignity of all human beings regardless of race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, gender identification, marital status, parental status, mental or physical disability, source of income, military status, military discharge status or any other protected status.*



CITY OF QUINCY  
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

730 MAINE STREET  
QUINCY, ILLINOIS 62301  
217-228-4527

**MEETING  
MINUTES**

**January 4, 2018**

**Call to Order**

Chair Cecil Weathers called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

**Roll Call**

Present: Mike Baker, Kate Daniels, Reggie Coleman, Matt Hermsmeier, Macy Ferguson-Smith, Rev. James A. Hailey, Joel Logue, Sue Rush, Cecil Weathers, Dennis Williams, Fr. Joe Zimmerman

Absent: Nayar Attai (exc), Les Fonza, Richard Reis, Susan Scholz

**Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes for December were not approved, because this secretary forgot to send them to the staff for distribution before the meeting.

**Public Comment**

Roy Webb, Quincy Superintendent of Schools, offered to present his “state of the schools” address to the Commission at our next meeting. The fall school term will begin a week later than usual because of the need to accommodate new arrangements at five elementary schools, some old, some new.

A discussion of truancy policies followed, with Mr. Webb expressing disappointment that the schools have not been able to control an increasing problem with truancy; over 10% of students in the Quincy Public Schools are now truant. Many cases of truancy go back to family problems, so that if more personal relationships could be established with family members, the situation might improve.

Measha Ferguson-Smith was present as an observer.

Kerry Anders, a member of the City Police and Fire Commission, the body which evaluates candidates for both forces, was present to discuss increasing minority police officers and firefighters. Acceptance of candidates can be improved if the candidates make use of aids in passing both the physical and written exams for acceptance. Applications can now be made online. He urged “selling Quincy as a community” to out-of-town recruits, who often do not have a good picture of Quincy’s advantages, and recommended that Commission members do ride-alongs with police officers as a way of becoming more familiar with the situations they face.

## **Old Business**

- **Education Committee** – No report.
- **Public Relations** – No report.
- **Community Action** – Ferguson-Smith has distributed by email a set of questions to accompany the February 17 Quincy Public Library showing of the video “13<sup>th</sup>.”

Weathers clarified the “Dialogue for Change” being promoted by Chad Scott of the Quincy Police Department. The Commission scheduled January 24 at 6:30 pm for the first meeting of this Dialogue, with the location to be determined.

## **New Business**

- Williams was contacted recently by someone with an eviction problem. One or two Commission members volunteered to accompany him tomorrow at 3:30 pm for a meeting with the person.
- Weathers asked for authorization to buy \$100 ads in the programs of two events: the January 15 King Day celebration on January 15 at First Baptist Church; and the February 10 A.M.E. Church Brotherhood Banquet. Williams moved and Coleman seconded a motion to approve the first ad, and Williams moved and Hailey seconded a motion to approve the second ad. Both motions passed.

The Unity Lodge is sponsoring a pancake breakfast at First Baptist Church at 8:15 on the morning of January 15.

## **Commissioners Comments**

Logue asked about the unavailability of the agenda for today’s meeting, and asked if the City Council meetings could be televised on regular TV (they are televised now on cable channel 15). Coleman will look into this.

Williams thanked Logue for his contribution to the Teen Reach Christmas party.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm on a motion by Williams, seconded by Coleman.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Zimmerman  
Secretary

*The Human Rights Commission works to provide leadership and advocacy to secure, protect, and promote human rights for all people. The Commission values the dignity of all human beings regardless of race, color, sex, age, religion, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, gender identification, marital status, parental status, mental or physical disability, source of income, military status, military discharge status or any other protected status.*