

**MEETING OF THE MONROE COUNTY
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MINUTES**

Wednesday, September 27, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call and Call to Order
 - a. Members present were: Byron Bangert, Doris Parlette, Eric Sader, Kathleen Sideli and Paul White. Staff present: Margie Rice, County Attorney.
2. Minutes for June were reviewed. Paul White moved approval and Doris Parlette moved seconded the motion. Minutes were accepted unanimously.
3. Old Business
 - a. Members discussed Judge Kellams' visit and conversation regarding the jail, including that only approximately eighteen inmates were actually serving a sentence and the rest were being held for other reasons. Reformation and rehabilitation were discussed, along with resources available locally for those purposes. During that discussion the question was raised about the classroom in the jail, which was not in use at the time the Human Rights Commission members toured the jail. Members wanted to know how and when the space is used and what type of programming is available to inmates.
 - b. Questions raised by former New Leaf New Life volunteer, Mary Goetze, in an email were brought up by Kathy. Margie Rice is to follow up on the questions Mary raised, by sending Mary a return email.
 - c. Eric asked if the Monroe County jail houses many inmates from other counties, and it was answered that we do not. The inmate population is comprised of Monroe County inmates. A brief discussion about the Binkley House and treatment of juveniles followed.
4. New Business
 - a. Sheriff Swain will attend the October meeting.
 - b. Paul discussed an upcoming event sponsored by Updraft and Jerry Kemp, whom Paul knows from attending high school with Mr. Kemp. The event was going to be held in the parking lot by Campus Costumes. Paul explained that Updraft provided supplemental education for those released from jail so that they may use their talents and skills. The program was originally called "Kemp College" and was renamed "Updraft". Paul said the program reduced recidivism. Updraft has been approved to go into classrooms at MCCSC, with the goal of keeping children from committing acts that may later land them in jail. It was suggested that the HRC may wish to invite Mr. Kemp to an upcoming meeting. His contact information is jtkemp3.ka@gmail.com; phone is 812-679-7707.
 - c. Next meeting will be held on October 25, 2017.
5. With no new complaints, no Commission nor public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.