

ARTICLE II. HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Sec. 58-31. Purpose.

The city council has deemed it to be in the best interest of the city to establish a human relations commission to include members who are broadly representative of the entire community and who are committed to a philosophy of inclusion, intergroup cooperation, and fair treatment that will effectively help the city meet the following needs:

- (1) *Fairness, respect.* Promote and develop an environment of fairness and respect among its citizens;
- (2) *Monitoring.* Develop ways to measure and monitor community relations, particularly those that are sources of intergroup conflict;
- (3) *Intergroup relations.* Involve all segments of the community in understanding and appreciating the benefits of positive intergroup relations;
- (4) *Issues.* Offer a range of programs and services that will help its residents and neighborhoods prevent and resolve issues of human relations; and
- (5) *Intergroup conflict.* Develop ways of anticipating, preparing for, and relieving community tensions arising from intergroup conflict.

(Code 1981, § 2-16; Ord. of 2-11-2002)

Sec. 58-32. Established; composition; appointment; representation; holding other office; removal from office; terms of office; vacancies; reappointments.

- (a) *Established.* There is hereby established an advisory commission to be known as the "City of Dover Human Relations Commission," to carry out the objectives as described in this article.
- (b) *Composition; appointment.* The commission shall consist of 15 members, all residents of the city. Five of these members shall be appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the city council. Ten of these members shall be appointed by the president of the council, based upon recommendations from the council and confirmed by the council.
- (c) *Representation.* In selecting the membership of the commission, the mayor and president of the council and the council shall take particular care to ensure that the commission is broadly representative of racial, religious, gender and ethnic groups residing in the city.
- (d) *Holding other office; removal.* No member of the commission shall hold any elected or appointed office under the government of the United States or the state, county, or city, or be a candidate for any such office. The mayor or the city council president may remove members of the commission, with the concurrence of the city council, for substantial neglect of duty, or gross misconduct in office.
- (e) *Terms of office; vacancies.* A member of the commission shall be appointed for a term of office of three years and until his successor has been appointed and has qualified. The appointees shall be appointed for staggered terms of office. When a vacancy occurs in

the membership of the commission, it shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired portion of the term in the same manner as the original appointment.

- (f) *Reappointments.* Members may be reappointed.

(Code 1981, § 2-17; Ord. of 2-11-2002)

Sec. 58-33. Organization; quorum; meetings; rules of procedure; limitation of functions; agreements; compensation; legal counsel; reports.

- (a) *Organization.* The human relations commission shall annually elect its own chairperson to preside over its meetings and may create and fill such other offices and committees among its members as may be found necessary and proper for its effective organization.
- (b) *Quorum.* A majority of the membership of the commission shall constitute a quorum and, if a quorum is present, a vacancy on the commission shall not impair the right of the remaining members to exercise all the powers of the commission.
- (c) *Meetings.* The commission shall hold such meetings as may be deemed necessary for the completion of its purposes, responsibilities and functions. Regular meetings shall be held at least once per month unless there is no business to be considered by the commission. Special meetings may be called by the chairperson or three members of the commission.
- (d) *Rules of procedure.* The commission is also authorized to adopt rules of procedure for the conduct of its meetings.
- (e) *Functions limited.* The commission shall not involve itself in activities or functions already assigned by law or decree to other governmental bodies.
- (f) *Agreements.* The commission may enter into agreements and build partnerships with other entities and organizations for the purpose of more efficiently and effectively carrying out its responsibilities.
- (g) *Compensation.* Members of the commission shall receive no compensation.
- (h) *Legal counsel.* The city solicitor shall provide legal counsel to the commission and shall be the legal representative of the commission in connection with its duties hereunder, on a case-by-case basis, or determine that outside counsel is needed and obtain such outside counsel for a particular matter.
- (i) *Reports.* The commission shall make such reports to the mayor and city council as shall be periodically necessary. An annual report of its accomplishments and a summary of its recommendations, as appropriate, shall be sent to the mayor and the city council.

(Code 1981, § 2-18; Ord. of 2-11-2002)