COMMON COUNCIL
CAL BRAND MEETING ROOM
CITY HALL
AUGUST 18, 2015

President Pro Tem Tim Shuffett called a regular meeting of the City Common Council to order at approximately 6:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers.

**I. Meeting Called to Order**

A. Opening Prayer was given by Rick Hermann with First Christian Church.

B. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilor Shuffett.

C. Roll Call was taken. Dascal Bunch, Ryan Brand, Frank Jerome, Frank Miller, Tim Shuffett, Kenneth Whipker, and James Lienhoop were present. Mayor Brown was absent.

D. Councilor Brand made a motion to approve the minutes from the Common Council meeting on August 4, 2015 as presented. Councilor Bunch seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**II. Unfinished Business Requiring Council Action**

A. None

**III. New Business Requiring Council Action**

A. None

**IV. Other Business**

A. Discussion for Human Rights Ordinance Revision - Columbus Human Rights Commission. Aida Ramirez, Director of Columbus Human Rights, introduced Commissioners John Stroh and Ian Kohen. Aida explained the Columbus Human Rights Commission unanimously voted to recommend to the Columbus City Council an amendment to Chapter 9.24, Discrimination Generally and Chapter 9.28, Housing Discrimination of the Columbus Municipal Code. She stated the recommendation includes the addition of verbiage consistent with what the Human Rights Commission believes is a need in the community, which includes protectable and enforceable action for individuals who identify as part of the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) community. The amendment also identifies protections for individuals who are 40 years of age and older. Aida discussed details of the proposed changes. She stated the amendments would ensure that Columbus is an inclusive, welcoming community, and that we abide by the laws that best fit our jurisdiction. Much discussion followed. Approximately forty members in attendance spoke. Councilor Jerome would like to see some programs for bullying in schools. Councilor Miller believes this ordinance is needed and recommended adding protections for veterans. Councilor Shuffett, liaison for the Human Rights Commission, applauded the Commission for their hard work and dedication. The item will be placed on the next City Council Agenda as an action item.

B. Standing Committee and Liaison Reports - None

C. The next regular meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 1, 2015, 6:00 p.m. in City Hall in the Cal Brand Meeting Room.**

D. Councilor Bunch made a motion for adjournment. Councilor Whipker seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:41 P.M

Jim Sheffel
Presiding Officer

Attest: Laura Welmes
Clerk Treasurer of City of Columbus