

**DUBUQUE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF
July 13, 2015**

Commissioner Allen called the meeting of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission to order at 4:37 p.m. on Monday, July 13, 2015, at the City Hall Annex, 1300 Main Street, Conference Room II, Dubuque, Iowa.

Roll Call:

Present:	Anthony Allen, Chair Fred Davis Tanya Engling Miquel Jackson	Tom LoGuidice Susan Stone
Absent:	Shirley Templeton Vaughn	Ashley Melchert
Staff:	Carol Spinoso	

Oath of Office

The Chair administered the oath of office to Tanya Engling.

Approval of June 2 and June 8, 2015 Minutes:

Commissioner LoGuidice moved to approve the Human Rights Commission meeting minutes of June 2 and June 8, 2015, and Commissioner Jackson seconded. All in favor of approving the meeting minutes as submitted.

Reports:

Caseload Report

The June 2015 Caseload Report was received and filed. A question was raised about the deadline for the Commission to review the proposed decision in the Reinhardt vs. Alpine Park Community case. Parties have 30 days to appeal, while the commission may initiate review on its own motion within 60 days. It was suggested for future hearings to have an alternate commissioner assigned to the hearing panel in the event of an unexpected absence.

Chairperson's Report

Last month the NAACP executive board members and chairpersons were evaluated by the whole committee. Results of those evaluations will be forthcoming. NAACP members will be finishing the second dialogue session with Inclusive Dubuque staff this week.

Anthony thanked those who staffed the DHRC table at the Juneteenth celebration. He felt it was a success although the weather did not cooperate.

The DBQ Community BBQ planning committee has been meeting. The Dubuque Independent Food League and the Mystique Casino have each donated \$500 towards the event.

The Dubuque Community-Police Relations Committee (DCPRC) has drafted a press release. They are looking at making the complaint forms bilingual and having interpreters available. Representatives from the NAACP and city staff have been

meeting to renegotiate the MOU with the DCPRC. There have been requests from other organizations to be involved with the MOU review.

Director's Report:

A written report was submitted.

New Business:

Appoint a DHRC Representative to DCPRC

Commissioner Allen provided a brief overview of the Dubuque Community & Police Relations Committee process and meeting requirements. Commissioner LoGuidice volunteered to serve as the commission's alternate representative on this committee.

Petition for Judicial Review

The Respondent in the DHRC 4381, Jermaine Stapleton vs. Simon Seeding & Sod case has filed a petition for judicial review of agency action in Iowa District Court. No commission action is needed at this time.

Commissioner Allen shared a communication from the International Day of Peace Partnership Committee that invites the Commission to once again join as a partner to the Day of Peace Festival planned for this fall. Commissioner Davis moved to continue to sponsor and collaborate with the International Day of Peace. Commissioner Engling seconded. All in favor.

Standing Items:

Goal 1: Research, illuminate and eliminate disparities (and increase cultural competencies) in education, criminal justice and housing. (*Jackson, Melchert, Stone, LoGuidice, Allen)

The subcommittee will meet on Tuesday, July 21 at 5:30 p.m. at the MFC.

Commissioner LoGuidice voiced frustration with the Source of Income Subcommittee on Housing Choice Voucher/Landlord Policy that he is serving on stating that there hasn't been much progress. The subcommittee met in May to lay out goals, and then met in June to review those goals and submit questions for a questionnaire. There is a meeting scheduled July 23 with no announced agenda. Commissioner Allen added that since the DHRC initiated this process, that they can send a letter voicing their concerns. Tom stated that he plans on voicing his concerns to the NAACP.

Commissioner LoGuidice was also dissatisfied with the answers from city staff about Dubuque being number one in marijuana arrests. If they are taking 12 – 18 months before they even start considering changing things, several more people will be arrested. He would like to go back to the agenda that they had when this issue was a goal and do something other than just talk about it. He suggested that Alvin Nash be invited to a meeting to provide an update on housing issues, and also requests additional discussion on marijuana arrests.

Goal 2: Provide input to City Council goals and priorities and support the Human rights Commission's goals and priorities. (Full commission participation) *Allen is Chair.

Commissioners will continue to provide input to Kelly.

Goal 3: Continue to improve communication within and among community groups in order to improve human rights initiatives. (Davis, *Vaughn, Lenhart, Allen)

This group is scheduled to meet on Thursday, July 16 at the Roshek Building, Café Mana Java at 5:00 p.m. meeting.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Jackson, second by Commissioner Davis. The meeting of the Human Rights Commission adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 10, 2015 at 4:30 p.m.

Minutes approved as submitted: _____

Minutes approved as corrected: _____