

**DUBUQUE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES OF  
April 9, 2018**

Commissioner Allen called the meeting of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission to order at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, April 9, 2017, at the City Hall Annex, 1300 Main Street, Conference Room II, Dubuque, Iowa.

**Roll Call:**

Present:	Anthony Allen, Chair Adrienne Breitfelder Indigo Channing	Jerry Hammel Jay Schiesl, Vice Chair Nicole Borovic
Absent:	Miquel Jackson Ashley Melchert	Kate Parks
Staff:	Carol Spinoso	

**Oath of Office**

Commissioner Melchert was not present for the Oath of Office. Melchert was appointed in December 2017 but has not attended four consecutive meetings. The Chair requested that discussion on Commissioner Melchert's replacement be added to next month's meeting agenda.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Motion by Schiesl, seconded by Channing to approve the meeting minutes of March 12, 2018. All in favor.

**Caseload Report**

The March 2018 caseload report was received and filed.

**Chairperson Report**

Commissioner Allen reported that he and Commissioner Schiesl attended the Blueprint to Building Community: 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Des Moines Civil and Human Rights Symposium in March. Segments offered included eliminating racism, poverty and economics, inclusion, and law and justice. Anthony announced that a White Privilege Conference (webinar) will be held at the University of Dubuque April 16th at 6:00 PM. Anthony is interested in bringing this conference into the schools.

Allen recommended that Commissioners walk through the Inclusive Dubuque Data Walk display at the offices of the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque.

The NAACP, BMC, MFC, and an anonymous donor made it possible for 150 youth to attend the movie Black Panther.

Anthony will be attending the 2018 Policy Link Conference in Chicago this week as part of a delegation sponsored by the Dubuque Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque.

The NAACP is continuing to work on the issues of housing and mass incarceration.

**Director Report:**

The first quarterly report was submitted.

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

**I Read Program Presentation – Hempstead Student**

The student was not in attendance. Anthony will make contact to reschedule.

**Review Studies: GDDC Community Perception/ISU Central Avenue Corridor/  
University of Iowa Portrait of Poverty**

Commissioner Channing moved and Commissioner Borovic seconded to table this discussion until the May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. All in favor.

**Standing Items: Goals**

Goal #1: Establish sustainable and consistent equity in the DCSD to live up to the mission and vision statement of the District.

**Approve Goal #1 Subcommittee Presentation**

Commissioner Allen explained that the commission will need to approve the PowerPoint presentation that Commissioner Schiesl and RRS Stewart prepared, prior to presenting to other groups. Commissioner Schiesl felt that there were some things lacking and not enough data in the report. He suggested that they take a step back because the School District has put together a committee that is looking at equity issues within the DCSD. Schiesl has spoken with school board members Tom Barton and Tammy Ryan, along with Stan Rhingens, and they all stated they are aware that there are things they need to address.

Schiesl stated that he and RRS will be meeting with Stan, so he recommended that they table this discussion and approval until the next meeting. Commissioner Schiesl moved to table the subcommittee presentation until the May meeting. Commissioner Borovic seconded. All in favor.

Goal #2: Collaborate with the Housing Commission and other partners in the City to make certain we accomplish the following for the benefit of the community.

At last month's meeting, Commissioners Channing and Parks expressed interest in reviving the Commission's newsletter. Commissioner Channing will attempt to schedule a time to meet with Kate so they can prepare a draft for the May meeting.

Goal #3: Collaborate in the elimination of barriers in employment to reduce the poverty rate in Dubuque.

**Upcoming Events:**

Commissioner Channing announced that Dubuque Main Street is hosting an event "Build a Better Block Impacting Central" on April 17<sup>th</sup> at Heartland Financial, 1301 Central Avenue, at 6:00 PM.

As part of the Loras College Speakers Series, Bob Kendrick, president of the Negro League Baseball Museum, will speak April 26<sup>th</sup> in the Academic Resource Center at Loras.

The NAACP is hosting their annual Bowl-a-Thon on May 5 at noon at Cherry Lanes.

**Adjournment:**

Commissioner Schiesl moved to adjourn, Commissioner Channing seconded. All in favor. The meeting ended at 5:35 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, May 14, 2018.

Minutes approved as submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes approved as corrected: \_\_\_\_\_