

**DUBUQUE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF
August 9, 2021**

Commissioner Gardiner called the virtual meeting of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission to order at 4:34 p.m. on Monday, August 9, 2021.

Roll Call:

Present:	Carla Anderson Michael Durnin Mallory Gardiner Miquel Jackson	Jake Kurczek Kathy McCarthy Taylor Merfeld
Absent:	Klanea Evans	Pamela Birch
Staff:	Kelly Larson	Carol Spinoso

Approval of June 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Anderson second by Durnin to approve the meeting minutes of June 14, 2021. It was noted that the date on the minutes should read June 14 not June 12, 2021. The minutes were approved as corrected. All in favor.

Reports

Caseload Reports

The June and July 2021 Caseload Reports were received and filed.

Chairperson's Report

Commissioner Gardiner acknowledged the 76th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima, one of the greatest human rights violations by man.

Director's Report

Kelly reported that on August 3, 2021, the CDC issued a new eviction moratorium that will end October 3, 2021.

Old Business:

New Business:

Appoint Human Rights Alternate to DCPRC

Commissioner Jackson currently serves as primary Human Rights Commission representative. Commissioner Anderson volunteered to serve as alternate. Nominations closed. Durnin moved and Merfeld seconded to appoint Anderson as alternate Human Rights Commission representative. Roll call:

Carla Anderson	Yes	Jake Kurczek	Yes
Michael Durnin	Yes	Kathy McCarthy	Yes
Mallory Gardiner	Yes	Taylor Merfeld	Yes
Miquel Jackson	Yes		

Motion carried.

Discuss Partnership with 2021 International Day of Peace

Jackson moved to partnership with the International Day of Peace by adding the Human Rights Commission to the list of partners for the 2021 Festival, and to publicize the Festival through the Human Rights Commission/Department’s resources. Anderson seconded. All in favor.

Commissioners discuss an email received by a community member related to complaints that have been directed to the Police and the Legal Department. The Director agreed to respond to the email to provide options and the process for filing a civil rights complaint with the ICRC and/or DCPRC. She will copy commissioners, so they are also aware of the options.

Standing Items – Goals 2021-2022:

Goal: To build a greater community awareness and connections to advance Human Rights in Dubuque.

- 1. **Outreach and Advocacy Efforts** – *Gardiner, Kurczek, Jackson
Gardiner asked that the listed person(s) responsible be removed at this time. Updates and names will be added later.
- 2. **Inequities in Housing, Homelessness, and Food Access** – *Anderson, McCarthy, Birch
No changes noted.
- 3. **Criminal Justice** – *Merfeld, Durnin
Durnin will forward meeting notes to Carol so she can add them to the goals chart. It was noted that the city has approved the hiring of a Diversion Officer for FY22. The SRO group is meeting monthly, and this group is also discussing restorative strategies. Reports to DHRC will be made monthly.

A motion by Merfeld and second by Anderson to approve the Commission goals as written. Roll call:

Carla Anderson	Yes	Jake Kurczek	Yes
Michael Durnin	Yes	Kathy McCarthy	Yes
Mallory Gardiner	Yes	Taylor Merfeld	Yes
Miquel Jackson	Yes		

Motion carried.

Kelly stated that staff received guidance today from the City Clerk indicating that working groups established by boards/commissions are subject to open meeting requirements, so public meeting notices must be sent 24 hours prior to the group meeting. When subcommittee groups are planning meetings, please inform Carol so she can get the required 24-hour notice issued.

Adjournment:

Jackson motioned, and McCarthy seconded to adjourn. All in favor. The meeting ended at 5:42 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, September 13, 2021.

Minutes approved as submitted: _____

Minutes approved as corrected: _____