

EQUITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

March 14, 2022

DATE: Monday, March 14, 2022

TIME: 4:30 PM

LOCATION: Ruby Sutton Building, 1157 Central Avenue, Dubuque, IA 52001

Commissioners Present: Michael Durnin, Jake Kurczek, Kathy McCarthy, Klanea Evans, Dereka Williams

Commissioners Absent: Mallory Gardiner (Chair), Maitha Jolet

Staff Present: Collins Eboh, Carol Spinoso

Commissioner Durnin called the meeting of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission to order at 4:36 p.m.

Approval of February 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Motion by McCarthy, second by Evans to approve the meeting minutes of February 14, 2022 as submitted. All in favor.

Reports

Caseload Report

The February 2022 Caseload Report was received and filed.

Chairperson's Report

Interim Director's Report

Collins shared that staff is currently gathering data to develop a Racial Equity Report Card. This report was inspired by the City of Iowa City, and it shows city demographics, complaints alleging racial discrimination, demographics of city employees, charges by race and Hispanic origin, juvenile curfew violations, and traffic stops by race and Hispanic origin and sex. It shows percentage changes by year, and he hopes to add data showing a disparity analysis score. Collins will keep commissioners informed as they work to refine the document.

Old Business:

Update on Goal Setting

Due to scheduling conflicts, the original March 26th goal setting session will need to be rescheduled. Collins asked if the group would be in favor of breaking the sessions into two nights, two hours each evening. New proposed dates are 4:00 p.m. the evenings of March 31 and April 4 or April 11 and April 13. A Doodle Poll will be sent to each to indicate availability.

New Business:

Election of Officers

It was suggested that elections be postponed until next month's meeting due to the number of commissioners present. There was a request for staff to distribute a summary of the roles of both the chair and vice-chair.

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, Evans
Evans is interested in getting more involved in sexual assault issues. Durnin stated that he would share the information on the Sexual Assault Response Team with her so she could attend those meetings.

2. **Inequities in Housing, Homelessness, and Food Access** – McCarthy, Kurczek
Kurczek announced that the Civic Leaders Program students have scheduled community input sessions on March 29, 30 and 31, 2022 at the MFC from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. to listen to resident concerns related to housing. He will be distributing flyers to various places throughout Dubuque. Durnin asked that he share a flyer with Caprice Jones at the Fountain of Youth. Commissioners are encouraged to attend those sessions.

3. **Criminal Justice** – Durnin

Adjournment:

Williams motioned and Evans seconded to adjourn. All in favor. The meeting ended at 5:38 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, April 11, 2022.

Minutes approved as submitted: _____

Minutes approved as corrected: _____