

**CITY OF DUBUQUE  
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES OF  
November 19, 2012**

Commissioner Allen called the meeting of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission to order at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, November 19, 2012, at the City Hall Annex, 1300 Main Street, Conference Room II Dubuque, Iowa.

**Roll Call:**

Present:           Anthony Allen, Chair                   Miquel Jackson  
                  Andrea Beacham                 Howard Lee III  
                  Mike Elliott                         RRS Stewart, Vice-Chair  
                  Andrea Helgager

Staff:             Carol Spinoso                         Kelly Larson

**Oath of Office**

Oath of Office was administered to newly appointed commission member Howard Lee III.

**Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Beacham moved to approve the Human Rights Commission meeting minutes of September 10, 2012 as submitted. Commissioner Elliott seconded. All in favor.

**Reports**

**Caseload Report**

The written report for September and October 2012 were submitted.

**Chairperson's Report**

Commissioner Allen reported that Commissioner Root resigned from the Commission. He received the Ruby Sutton Humanitarian Award at the NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet on November 16.

**Director's Report**

Kelly stated that local community leaders and city staff have just completed three days of Intercultural Leadership Training. Staff will be following up with city staff to see how they might want to be involved in efforts within the organization, and with some community members to see about next steps in trying to connect with the business community.

Nikola has been meeting with a group who is working on creating a volunteer center in the community.

The fourth of five sessions of Community Dialogue on Race will be held tonight at the Library.

Staff continues to revamp the Department as they meld Nikola's position into the Department looking at job descriptions and indicators and measures.

The City is currently recruiting for a director for the Multicultural Family Center.

**Old Business**

**Review and discuss current goals and collaborations**

**Joint Goal #1 & 5:** Increase citizen dialogue and education.

~Dubuque Community BBQ Debriefing

Commissioner Jackson reported that eight businesses were present and good community attendance. Commissioner Allen stated that they received \$81 to be used for scholarships. Commissioner Jackson moved to approve that the Dubuque Independent Football League create a budget line item for the \$81 to be used for NAACP scholarships. Commissioner Elliot seconded. All in favor. Commissioner Helgager has prepared a letter to BBQ sponsors and will forward it to the Chair for distribution. The Chair will draft a letter to Sugar Ray acknowledging any miscommunication.

Goal #2: Improve HRC quality. Commissioners Jackson, Allen.

Goal #3: Improve tenant/landlord communication. Commissioners Stewart, Helgager, Root  
Commissioner Allen will assist.

Commissioner Allen reported that Commissioner Helgager attended the September 12 Safe Community Advisory Committee to discuss landlord/tenant communication. On December 3 the City Council will decide whether or not they will extend the SCAC for another year. If approved, this group will continue to work with the SCAC.

Goal #4: Decrease incidents of bullying and violence. Commissioners Beacham and Stewart  
Better Together Dubuque Diversity Conference – Commissioner Beacham  
Commissioner Beacham was delighted to report that the conference was a big success. There was great publicity with over 200 people attending. There were 22 speakers and the evaluations were complimentary and appreciative. The family friendly event held following the conference attracted 350 people.

Mediation Initiative – Commissioner Stewart and Beacham

Commissioner Stewart stated that they are making their third attempt to meet with Eric Dregne to discuss the feasibility of bringing Charles Barker's mediation program to Dubuque. Kelly added that the DDRC mediators met to talk about holding a visioning session in April with partners to discuss what we need in terms of mediation services in the community.

Collaboration with CFGD and Day of Peace – Commissioner Stewart

Commissioner Stewart provided the program from the International Day of Peace. She stated that the Speak Your Peace group continues to meet Tuesdays at 4:30 at various locations. Contact Jessica Rose for meeting locations.

Goal #5: Help promote the NAACP. Commissioners Elliott, Root, and Stewart

## **New Business**

David Gudenkauf, a commissioner on the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women, was present to invite commissioners to attend a community outreach session that the Iowa Department of Human Rights will be hosting on Wednesday, December 5, 2012 at 2:30 p.m. at Hillcrest Family Services, A. Y. McDonald Fellowship Hall, lower level of the Chapel, 2005 Asbury Road, Dubuque. Staff from the Iowa Department of Human Rights will be here as well as people from our local area who serve on the various commissions to explain State priorities and commission roles. Conversation will follow.

## **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Elliott, second by Commissioner Beacham. All in favor. The meeting of the Human Rights Commission adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 10, 2012.

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

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