

**CITY OF DUBUQUE  
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES OF  
January 14, 2013**

Commissioner Allen called the meeting of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission to order at 4:36 p.m. on Monday, January 14, 2014, 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                           Jeff Lenhart  
  RRS Stewart, Vice-Chair

Absent:            Andrea Helgager

Staff:             Carol Spinoso

**Oath of Office**

Commissioner Helgager was not present for Oath of Office.

**Approval of Minutes**

The Human Rights Commission meeting minutes of December 10, 2012 were approved by unanimous consent after motion by Commissioner Elliott, second by Commissioner Lenhart.

**Reports**

**Caseload Report**

The written report for December 2012 was submitted.

**Chairperson's Report**

Commissioner Allen reported that the Safe Community Advisory Committee will have a work session with the City Council on February 18<sup>th</sup> to review the progress of the 60 recommendations from the Safe Community Task Force. He announced that there is a vacancy on the Safe Community Advisory Committee as well as the Human Rights Commission.

**Director's Report**

No report

**Old Business**

**Review and discuss goals from January 5, 2013 goal setting**

Commissioner Stewart moved to carry over some of the initiatives from last year's goals #1 and 2 to this year's goals. Second by Commissioner Elliott. All in favor. Commissioner Stewart will meet with staff to discuss which initiatives should be carried over.

**Goal #1:** Increase opportunities for citizen dialogue and education on human and civil rights:  
Howard, Miquel, Anthony, Jeff, RRS

- ◆ Advocacy/awareness of the commission
- ◆ Educate people on individual rights and where those arise under the law – educational module called "Hidden Rules of Human Rights"
- ◆ Sponsor a meal
- ◆ Move from Make a Difference Day to Make A Difference Week
- ◆ Have an educational booth at the Library once a month

Goal #2: Commission business/improve HRC quality:

Miquel, Howard, Anthony, Andrea B., Mike

- ◆ Increase visibility
- ◆ Improve organization of meeting
- ◆ Increase attendance
- ◆ Improve camaraderie amongst commissioners
- ◆ Orientation on goals for new commissioners
- ◆ Continuing education – “Rule of the Month”

Commissioner Allen asked to reinstate the “Rule of the Month.” He asked staff to provide pieces of information from either Title 8 or the commissioner binder for a review at monthly meetings beginning with the protected classes.

Goal #3: Community dialogue and education on bullying and Violence:

Miquel, Howard, Andrea B., Jeff, RRS

It was decided to move the already established events under the previous goal #4 to goal #3.

- ◆ Community bonding
- ◆ Interaction between various races/nationalities
- ◆ Foster neighborhood mediation working with DDRC
- ◆ Better Together Dubuque II
- ◆ Day of Peace Festival
- ◆ Speak Your Peace
- ◆ BBQ in DBQ

Goal #4: Increase collaborations/partnerships to further the mission of the DHRC:

Howard, Miquel, Andrea H., RRS, Mike

It was decided to this goal would focus on new collaborations and partnerships.

- ◆ Educating on the ADA
- ◆ Work with other commissions
- ◆ Calendar of activities
- ◆ Black History Month College Tour
- ◆ Reconnect with commission spin-off organizations: Speakers Bureau, PAD, DDRC, faces & voices
- ◆ Inventory of what organizations we have relationships with and where we’d like to take those relationships
- ◆ Consider program focusing on disproportionate impact of poverty on women and people of color

Commissioner Jackson moved to approve the four main goals for 2013. Commissioner Lenhart seconded. Roll call:

Allen	Yes	Lee	Yes
Beacham	Yes	Lenhart	Yes
Elliott	Yes	Stewart	Yes
Jackson	Yes		

Motion carried.

Commissioners were encouraged to be involved in subcommittee work and support and attend commission related activities to increase visibility.

**New Business**

Commissioner Allen stated that Dr. Eddie Moore contacted him sharing information on a national campaign for MLK Day, asking businesses, schools, families, and everyone else, to have a moment of silence, and to then play the "I Have a Dream" speech, followed by discussion/reflection.

Commissioners Stewart and Beacham met with Eric Dregne to discuss the possibility of bringing Charles Barker to Dubuque to facilitate a mediation/negotiation event. Eric conveyed to them that before bringing him to Dubuque they want a follow-up plan in place as a way for people to keep developing skills. It was suggested that the DDRC possibly join with the Community Foundation or community leaders to do a mediation institute that is broader than just dispute resolution. They will continue discussions.

Carol reported that the Department's FY2012 annual report will be presented to the Council at their January 22 meeting at 6:30 p.m.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Beacham, second by Commissioner Elliott. All in favor. The meeting of the Human Rights Commission adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 11, 2013.

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