

**CITY OF DUBUQUE
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF
March 11, 2013**

Commissioner Allen called the meeting of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission to order at 4:34 p.m. on Monday, March 11, 2013, at the City Hall Annex, 1300 Main Street, Conference Room II Dubuque, Iowa.

Roll Call:

Present:	Anthony Allen, Chair Andrea Helgager Miquel Jackson	Howard Lee III Jeff Lenhart RRS Stewart, Vice-Chair
Absent:	Andrea Beacham	Mike Elliott
Staff:	Carol Spinoso	Kelly Larson

Approval of Minutes

The Human Rights Commission meeting minutes of February 11, 2013 were approved by unanimous consent after motion by Commissioner Stewart, second by Commissioner Helgager.

Reports

Caseload Report

The written report for February 2013 was submitted.

Chairperson's Report

Commissioners congratulated Commissioner Allen on him being presented the Dubuque 365 Impact Award for Government.

Commissioner Allen reported that the Dubuque Independent Football League (DIFL) is looking at funding sources to lend support to the BBQ in DBQ and Better Together events again this fall. He stated that the series of "Power of the Word" panel discussions that Commissioners Lee and Jackson collaborated on for Black History Month went well, adding that the panelists were fantastic. Organizers are looking into continuing this type of discussion series.

Director's Report

Kelly reported that the budget process has been completed. She stated that the City Life pilot program will kick-off soon. They will be recruiting for the Human Relations Specialist position, as well as a VISTA position that is being vacated by Trisha Federspiel in June. Staff is spending a significant amount of time working on trying to figure out a way to have our measures and indicators align better across each of the positions, so that we are showing more impact of the work we're doing in our Department. Upcoming events: Saturday is Taste of the World, City Expo will be shifted from April to September, and information is out on the Community Days of Caring in April.

Old Business

Review and Discuss Goals

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

Commissioner Stewart reported that she attended the Conference on African American Children and Families at the University of Northern Iowa. She distributed handouts from sessions. Commissioner Lenhart reported that the Complaint Free World program went well, and they raised approximately \$3,500 for the Rescue Mission. He is working on bringing

John Kralik, the author of "A Simple Act of Gratitude" to Dubuque in June, and he has agreed to donate a box of books for book discussions.

Goal #2: Commission business/improve HRC quality:
Miquel, Howard, Anthony, Andrea B., Mike, Jeff

Rule of the Month: Title 8, Chapter 3: Unfair and Discriminatory Practices
Discussion will take place at next month's meeting.

Goal #3: Community dialogue and education on bullying and violence:
Miquel, Howard, Andrea B., Jeff, RRS

Commissioner Stewart stated that both the Better Together Dubuque and BBQ in DBQ planning committees probably won't start meeting until this summer.

Goal #4: Increase collaborations/partnerships to further the mission of the DHRC:
Howard, Miquel, Andrea H., RRS, Mike

Commissioner Stewart submitted information that outlined activities of the Cedar Rapids Civil Rights Commission which prompted the proclamation anniversary event. She read the FMLA, Women's Suffrage, and Fair Housing Act Proclamations that will be presented at the March 18 City Council meeting. A few corrections to the proclamations were made. Commissioner Stewart moved and Commissioner Helgager seconded to approve the FMLA proclamation as revised. All in favor. Commissioner Stewart moved to approve the Women's Suffrage proclamation as revised, Commissioner Lenhart seconded. All in favor. Commissioner Stewart moved to approve the Fair Housing proclamation as revised, Commissioner Lee seconded. All in favor.

She stated that Joyce Connor will read the Women's Suffrage proclamation during the March 20th proclamation social at 5:00 p.m. at the Library in the Program Room. She asked for volunteers to talk about the Commission, someone to talk about the Department, and someone to read the other two proclamations. Commissioners Helgager and Lee will read the Fair Housing Proclamation and Commissioner Lenhart the FMLA. Commissioners Stewart and Allen will do introductions and talk about the duties of the Commission, and Kelly will provide information on the Department. Commissioner Stewart will send an email reminder and task list out to Commissioners.

New Business

Letter to DCSD Regarding Equity Operations Position

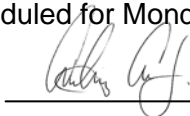
Commissioner Allen gave some background information on the Dubuque Community School District Equity Operations position. Chrissy Johnson has recently been appointed into that position. It was suggested to rewrite the previous letter that was initially sent to Stan and Claudette regarding that position, directing it to Ms. Johnson, and asking her to attend a DHRC meeting. Commissioner Lee moved to approve sending the revised letter to Ms. Johnson. Commissioner Jackson seconded. All in favor.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Stewart, second by Commissioner Jackson. All in favor. The meeting of the Human Rights Commission adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 8, 2013.

Minutes approved as submitted: _____



Minutes approved as corrected: _____