

**CITY OF DUBUQUE
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF
September 8, 2014**

Commissioner Allen called the meeting of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission to order at 4:38 p.m. on Monday, September 8, 2014, at the City Hall Annex, 1300 Main Street, Conference Room II, Dubuque, Iowa.

Roll Call:

Present: Anthony Allen, Chair Tom LoGuidice
Miquel Jackson Chris Ostwinkle
Howard Lee RRS Stewart
Jeff Lenhart Susan Stone

Absent: Ashley Melchert

Staff: Carol Spinoso Kelly Larson

Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner Stone stated that her name was misspelled in the minutes. Commissioner LoGuidice moved to approve the meeting minutes of August 11, 2014 as corrected. Commissioner Lee seconded. All in favor.

Reports:

Caseload Report

The August 2014 caseload report was received and filed.

Chairperson's Report

Commissioner Allen reported that he will be giving a presentation on intercultural competence to a sociology class at Loras College tomorrow.

A nominating committee for the election of NAACP officers has been established and new leadership should be in place next month. Commissioners LoGuidice, Lee and Stewart have worked to update the By-Laws for the NAACP and should be approved at Wednesday's meeting.

Commissioner Allen submitted names to the City Manager for approval and appointment to the Community Police Relations Committee (CPRC).

The Black Men Coalition's annual mentoring program has begun at Hempstead and Senior. They are hoping to begin working with seventh and eighth graders as well.

The Community Engagement subcommittee of Inclusive Dubuque will begin meeting again this week.

Director's Report:

A written report was submitted.

Old Business:

Source of Income

~ **Discuss Source of Income FAQ's**

Commissioner Stewart presented FAQ's which were researched and written by the University of Iowa Legal Clinic. It addresses source of income in credit transactions when it comes to home ownership. Commissioner Stewart moved to approve the draft

of the Frequently Asked Questions so the commission can share with the public. Commissioner LoGuidice seconded. The Director recommended that the FAQ's be sent to the Legal Department for review prior to public distribution. Commissioner Stewart offered a friendly amendment to forward the document on to Legal for their review. Commissioner LoGuidice accepted the amendment. Commissioner Stewart asked to have Legal staff clarify specifics about the inclusion of food stamps. All in favor.

~Discuss/modify/adopt General Rules for Public Participation

Commissioner Stewart presented a draft of the Human Rights Commission General Rules for Public Participation. It was suggested that since #5 stated a time limit, that they include that in #1 as well. Consensus was to change the wording in #1 to "Speaking time will be at the discretion of the Chairperson or the Commissioner chairing the meeting"; and #5 to "A speaker may speak on one issue per meeting as time permits at the discretion of the Chairperson or the Commissioner chairing the meeting." Commissioner Stewart moved to approve as corrected. Commissioner LoGuidice seconded. All in favor.

~Public Forum Planning

The date for the public forum for community discussion on the source of income proposed amendments was tentatively set for Thursday, October 16 at 7:00 p.m. Staff will see if the Auditorium is available for the forum. Commissioners Stewart and Allen will contact the Housing Commission and the Residents Advisory Board to let them know about the forum, and they will prepare a media release.

New Business:

ADA Service Animal Species Restrictions (Stewart)

Commissioner Stewart distributed copies of an article that lays out the species restrictions that are now being implemented in relations to the American with Disabilities Act.

Standing Items:

Review and Discuss Goals

Goal #1 & 2:

Sub. Goal #1: Strengthen DHRC relationships as well as relationships between the community Members met to design a Human Rights Commission informational display. Commissioner Ostwinkle asked for feedback. They have arranged to have the display at the Library in October, the Multicultural Family Center in November, and the Roshek Building in December. They will be meeting again September 17th at 4:00 to finalize the display.

Sub. Goal #2: Ensure DHRC feel their roles are meaningful &productive by improving effectiveness and quality of meetings.

Commissioner Allen summarized results of the evaluation of last month's meeting:

Goal #3: Discuss Criminal Justice procedures as they relate to racial disparities

Racial Disparities Forum Planning Subcommittee Update

Commissioner LoGuidice reported that they are making revisions to the plan for sustainable change. They will be meeting with panel members on October 15 at 4:00 p.m. to discuss the plan and possible changes. They will also be meeting on January 28, 2015 with the panelist to discuss how they are interpreting the data in the plan and discuss what they feel the implications of the data are for public policy in Dubuque. One week later there will be a public meeting at Prescott School. As a result of those two meetings, the subcommittee will move items onto the agenda for commission action.

Commissioners asked that the charts contained in the plan that were received from Chief Dalsing be updated to include more current data. Kelly explained that in August 2014 they

began using new software that more easily tracks the data they are interested in. Commissioners requested data be forwarded to them quarterly. Commissioners questioned how the Police Department decides on the locations of additional stations. Kelly stated that the Police use Territory Accountability Design to look at statistics and analyze calls for service by area to see where the need is. They requested that Chief Dalsing attend the October 13th meeting to explain territorial accountability design.

Goal #4: Education and communication regarding Housing

Goal #5: Participate in Inclusive Dubuque process

DBQ BBQ Subcommittee Update

Subcommittee members reported that planning for the September 20th BBQ is complete. Commissioner Jackson will be meeting with Kate Zanger at Clarke to go over set-up and food.

Inclusive Dubuque

Commissioners want to invite Jessica Rose to the November meeting so she can provide an update on Inclusive Dubuque.

Appoint Liaisons to CPRC and DDRC

Commissioner Stewart was appointed primary and Commissioner Ostwinkle alternate to the Community Police Relations Committee (CPRC).

Commissioner LoGuidice volunteered to serve as the alternate liaison to the Dubuque Dispute Resolution Center (DDRC).

Consent Items:

Proclamation

Commissioner Stewart presented a proclamation for National Disability Employment Awareness Month and a press release to be presented to the City Council next month.

Public Input:

Local landlords were present to voice concerns about the proposed source of income amendment to the Fair Housing Ordinance. Specifically, they had concerns related to damages recovery and the inspection process for Section 8 vouchers. The Landlord Association would like to keep working with the Commission and looks forward to the discussion on October 16.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Jackson, second by Commissioner Stewart. All in favor. The meeting of the Human Rights Commission adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Commissioner Jackson will lead the next regular meeting scheduled for Monday, October 13, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.

Minutes approved as submitted: _____



Minutes approved as corrected: _____