

**CITY OF DUBUQUE
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF**

December 8, 2014

Commissioner Allen called the meeting of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission to order at 4:34 p.m. on Monday, December 8, 2014, at the City Hall Annex, 1300 Main Street, Conference Room II, Dubuque, Iowa.

Roll Call:

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

Absent:

Staff:	Kelly Larson	Carol Spinoso
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Approval of November 10, 2014 Minutes:

A correction was noted to change the word “ad” to “add” in the second sentence under Approval of Minutes. Commissioner Stone moved to approve the meeting minutes of November 10, 2014 as corrected. Commissioner Jackson seconded. All in favor.

Reports:

Caseload Report

The October and November 2014 Caseload Reports were received and filed.

Chairperson’s Report

On Wednesday the Mayor will host the inauguration of the My Brother’s Keeper Community Challenge initiative in Dubuque.

Members of the Black Men’s Coalition have established dates for The Manhood Project which will begin in January.

Mark Dalsing and Kelly Larson provided training to members of the Community Police Relations Committee on November 20.

Anthony is attending four days of Intercultural Competency Leadership training. He highly recommended that commissioners attend this training.

Anthony attended a meeting of Neighbor to Neighbor, a pilot program that Manisha designed to engage resident leaders to help build effective relationships among neighbors in their blocks.

On Saturday, the national organization of NAACP will be organizing marches around the nation in relation to the recent events. Members of the Dubuque Chapter of NAACP are working on organizing a peaceful march for justice and equality issues. Details will be forthcoming.

Director's Report:

A written report was submitted. Kelly added that the Annual Report and source of income recommendation will be on the December 15th City Council agenda. She added that as members of the Local and Regional Government Alliance on Race and Equity, the City was asked to consider joining in an amicus brief. She is working on forwarding a recommendation to the Council to join in the amicus brief being written on behalf of local governments in support of upholding disparate impact law in housing.

Old Business:

Source of Income

Review Minutes from October 16th Forum

Commissioner Stewart noted that there were questions that they provided answers to at the Forum, but that the answers did not get captured in the minutes. She distributed minutes with revisions that reflect the answers provided in brackets. Commissioner Ostwinkle moved to approve the October 16, 2014 as amended. Commissioner Lenhart seconded. All in favor.

Poverty & Race Research Action Council –Laws Barring Source of Income Discrimination

Reading material was shared for informational purposes.

One Iowa Update

Dates suggested for the One Iowa program presentation are January 14, 15, 21 or 22, 2015. Commissioners favored an evening event due to work schedules.

New Business:

Clarify Subcommittee Process and Chairs

Kelly stated that Chairs of the various subcommittees need to communicate with Carol regarding agenda items and keep within the timeline for submitting and sending those agenda items. Reviewed Chairs for various subcommittees:

Goal 1 & 2: Subcommittee has completed their goals

Goal 3: Commissioner Stewart interim – Will confirm with Carol tomorrow

Goal 4: Commissioner Allen is Chair

Goal 5: Commissioner Jackson is Chair. Commissioners Melchert and Stone joined this subcommittee.

Carol asked that Chairs provide agenda items to her the Thursday prior to the following week's meeting.

Handouts from ICRC Symposium and Justice Disparities Summit

Commissioner Stewart provided various articles on racial impact.

Standing Items:

Review and Discuss Goals

Goal 1 & 2: Strengthen DHRC relationships as well as relationships between the community Schedule Goal Setting Session

Commissioners will hold their goal setting session on Saturday, February 7, 2015, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Staff will contact Molly Menster, Art Roche and Sid Scott to see about their availability.

Discuss Continuing Chair rotation until Goal Setting

Consensus was to discontinue the rotation.

Goal #3: Discuss Criminal Justice procedures as they relate to racial disparities
Racial Disparities Forum Planning Subcommittee Update

The subcommittee and panelists will meet again on December 17 at 4:30 p.m. The January 7 planning subcommittee meeting is scheduled for 3:45 p.m. The Forum is scheduled for January 28, 2015 at Clarke University. Chrissy Johnson will be scheduling the second forum for either February 3 or 4 at the Prescott Resource Center. Commissioner Allen will confirm forum meeting locations and times with Rachel Daack and Chrissy Johnson.

Goal #4: Education and communication regarding Housing

Goal #5: Participate in Inclusive Dubuque process

Inclusive Dubuque – Community Engagement Committee

Subcommittee members are researching resources available related to facilitation.

DBQ BBQ Subcommittee Update

Commissioner Jackson distributed the survey results from this year's BBQ. This data will be forwarded to Inclusive Dubuque. It was requested that this data and that of the previous year, be available to review at the goal setting session.

Consent Items:

Commissioner Ostwinkle submitted his resignation from the Commission due to job relocation.

Staff will provide the updates to the organization list at next month's meeting.

Public Input

Jerry Maro requested clarification regarding the agenda item for the City Council's December 15th meeting regarding source of income. It was explained that the agenda item is the Commission's letter requesting that the Council consider their recommendation to appoint a task force. He stated that he had data from the Housing Department that states that 56% of people renting with Section 8 Vouchers are elderly or disabled. He asked that they use the percentage instead of the term "majority."

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Ostwinkle, second by Commissioner Stone. All in favor. The meeting of the Human Rights Commission adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 12, 2015 at 4:30 p.m.

Minutes approved as submitted: _____ 

Minutes approved as corrected: _____