

**DUBUQUE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF
August 10, 2015**

Commissioner Allen called the meeting of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission to order at 4:36 p.m. on Monday, August 10, 2015, at the City Hall Annex, 1300 Main Street, Conference Room II, Dubuque, Iowa.

Roll Call:

Present: Anthony Allen, Chair
Fred Davis
Tanya Engling
Miquel Jackson, Vice-Chair
Ashley Melchert
Susan Stone
Shirley Templeton Vaughn

Absent: Tom LoGuidice

Staff: Kelly Larson
Carol Spinoso

Approval of July 13, 2015 Minutes:

Commissioner Jackson moved to approve the Human Rights Commission meeting minutes of July 13, 2015. Commissioner Vaughn seconded. All in favor of approving the meeting minutes as submitted.

Reports:

Caseload Report

The July 2015 Caseload Report was received and filed.

Chairperson's Report

Commissioner Allen reported that the NAACP is working with the Clinton and Sanders campaign committees in educating youth about the voting process. The NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet will be held November 14. The NAACP has been working with the DBQ Community BBQ committee in organizing the September 19th DBQ Community BBQ event. They are also working with the Iowa Federation of Labor in planning a Workers Summit to be held sometime in October. The NAACP held a goal setting session, ethics training and the first of two Inclusive Dubuque dialogue sessions. Nationally, the NAACP is beginning the walk to Washington, and are encouraging local branches of the NAACP to march for peace.

Director's Report:

A written report was submitted. Kelly stated that she prepares an internal quarterly written report of departmental activities for the City Council. She asked if it was acceptable to submit quarterly reports to commissioners instead of monthly reports. Consensus was to approve quarterly reports.

Old Business:

Appeal in DHRC #4416

Kelly stated that the parties in the Reinhardt vs. Alpine Park Community rejected the Commission's amended settlement offer, and the Respondent submitted an appeal to the recommended decision. By administrative rules, the Complainant has until August 19, 2015 to submit a response to the appeal, and the Respondent has until September 8, 2015 to reply. Commissioners need to decide whether they will grant the request for oral arguments and then decide on a date for review. Commissioner Stone moved to

hear oral arguments and review the case on September 16, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.
Commissioner Melchert seconded. Roll call:

Anthony Allen	Yes	Ashley Melchert	Yes
Fred Davis	No	Susan Stone	Yes
Tanya Engling	Yes	Shirley Vaughn	Yes
Miquel Jackson	No		

Motion carries.

New Business

Appoint Teen LGBT Liaison

Commissioner Stone agreed to volunteer as a liaison to this group.

Discuss Promotion of DHRC

Commissioner Melchert voiced concern that people aren't aware of who the Commission is and what they do. She suggested they write an article for the TH. Commissioner Vaughn stated that subcommittee members for Goal #3 have met and discussed that concern and have brainstormed a few ideas. Further discussion will be held under Goal #3 discussions.

Standing Items:

Goal 1: Research, illuminate and eliminate disparities (and increase cultural competencies) in education, criminal justice and housing. (*Jackson, Melchert, Stone, LoGuidice, Allen)

Kelly reported that Nikola will be attending the Iowa Summit on Justice & Disparities Workshop in Ankeny August 28 & 29, 2015, where the Governor, State decision makers, national experts, and community advocates will address minority disproportionality in the criminal justice system.

Kelly will be attending the 2015 Iowa Bipartisan Criminal Justice Summit in Cedar Falls on October 1. She received a request from Iowa State Representative Helen Miller, one of the event sponsors, asking the commission to sign on as a supporter of the Summit. Commissioner Davis moved and Commissioner Stone seconded to sign-on as a supporter of the Summit. All in favor.

Kelly stated that once the final Equity Profile is complete they will begin pulling groups together for action planning which will provide an opportunity for commissioner involvement.

Alvin will be present at next month's meeting to provide an update on the Source of Income committee work.

Goal 2: Provide input to City Council goals and priorities and support the Human rights Commission's goals and priorities. (Full commission participation) *Allen is Chair.

Commissioners will continue to provide input to Kelly.

Goal 3: Continue to improve communication within and among community groups in order to improve human rights initiatives. (Davis, *Vaughn, Allen)

The subcommittee discussed and made the following recommendations:

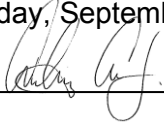
- 1) Commissioners announce when they attend other group functions such as Inclusive Dubuque, BBQ in DBQ, etc.
- 2) Set dates to present information about the commission to liaison organizations; and then branch out to other groups.
- 3) Work with various groups/organizations in distributing the DHRC brochures and/or business cards.
- 4) Suggestion to have joint meetings with organizations to build partnerships.
- 5) Hold public "get to Know" meetings at various locations to provide an opportunity for more interaction between community members and commissioners.

Kelly will work on updating the presentation that already exists and will forward to the group.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Vaughn, second by Commissioner Davis. The meeting of the Human Rights Commission adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 14, 2015 at 4:30 p.m.

Minutes approved as submitted: _____


Minutes approved as corrected: _____