

**DUBUQUE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF
September 14, 2015**

Commissioner Allen called the meeting of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission to order at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2015, at the City Hall Annex, 1300 Main Street, Conference Room II, Dubuque, Iowa.

Roll Call:

Present:	Anthony Allen, Chair	Tom LoGuidice
	Fred Davis	Ashley Melchert
	Tanya Engling	Susan Stone
	Sarah Fisher	Shirley Templeton Vaughn
	Miquel Jackson, Vice-Chair	
Staff:	Kelly Larson	Carol Spinoso
	Brynn McDonnell	

Commissioner LoGuidice and VISTA Brynn McDonnell revealed a draft of the display they are creating to provide information on civil rights history in a contemporary fashion. It will first be displayed during LULAC, NAACP and PFLAG meetings.

Approval of July 13, 2015 Minutes:

Commissioner Jackson moved to approve the Human Rights Commission meeting minutes of August 10, 2015. Commissioner Davis seconded. All in favor of approving the meeting minutes as submitted.

Reports:

Caseload Report

The September 2015 Caseload Report was received and filed.

Chairperson's Report

Commissioner Allen reported on the following NAACP activities:

- ~ They will be submitting a proposal to the City Council and City staff for a name change of the Multicultural Family Center to the Ruby Sutton Multicultural Family Center.
- ~ The BBQ in DBQ is Saturday, September 19 from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Clarke University in the Kehl Center. There are also International Day of Peace activities happening in the community during the next two weeks.
- ~ In October Anthony will be traveling to California to attend a conference on inclusion and equity with representatives of Inclusive Dubuque.
- ~ The NAACP newsletter has been revived and should be circulating soon.
- ~ They have been reviewing the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding), an initiative of the NAACP, which addresses bridging communication between the minority community and the Police Department.
- ~ The Freedom Fund Banquet will be held November 14 at the Diamond Jo beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Director's Report:

Kelly reminding Commissioners that LULAC and Inclusive Dubuque are planning a community dialogue on September 26 at 1:00 p.m. in the school gym at St. Anthony's.

Following the recent homicide, City staff reached out to our contacts in the Marshallese community to discuss concerns of backlash and student safety in the schools.

Old Business:

Update of Source of Income Subcommittee Work – Alvin Nash

Alvin provided a brief review for new commissioners. The two subcommittees, Source of Income Analysis and Housing Choice Voucher/Landlord policy had been meeting separately, but will now be combined.

The SOI Analysis subcommittee has gathered data related to Source of Income ordinances and developed a community planning documents. The plan will be used to create and implement public engagement opportunities for key stakeholders. They will then conduct a policy analysis and make an informed recommendation.

The Housing Choice Voucher/Landlord Policy subcommittee has reviewed the national and local requirement for the Section 8/HCV Program as well as recent HUD approved changes for Dubuque HCV program. The subcommittee reviewed data on SOI ordinances and alternative community solutions. They then created a survey that will be sent to all of the licensed landlords in the community this fall in an attempt to gain an understanding as to what their position is on this issue. Results will be summarized and the full SOI committee will conduct a policy analysis and make recommendations.

Alvin will provide a detailed report for next month's meeting on the Voluntary Compliance Agreement (VCA) between the City and HUD and what they are doing to address HUD's concerns.

New Business

Recommendation on Park & Recreation Commission Request

Kelly stated that the Park & Recreation Commission invited Human Rights Commissioners to provide input on the possibility of renaming the "Indian Room" at Eagle Point Park in light of the focus on inclusion in our community. Commissioners discussed the importance of involving local residents who identify as American Indian/Native American or who are associated with a particular tribe, such as the Meskwaki, in the decision-making. Commissioner Davis moved to recommend that the Park & Recreation Commission contact representatives from the American Indian/Native American community to get their viewpoint in the spirit of an educational opportunity. Commissioner LoGuidice seconded. All in favor.

Standing Items:

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

A meeting will be scheduled.

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.

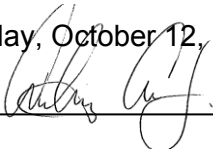
Goal 3: Continue to improve communication within and among community groups in order to improve human rights initiatives. (Davis, *Vaughn, Allen)

Commissioner Vaughn stated that she is working on updating the presentation. She asked for input on the presentation, and inquired as to which groups/organizations they want to present to first. A meeting will be called to further discuss the details.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner LoGuidice, second by Commissioner Vaughn. The meeting of the Human Rights Commission adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

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

Minutes approved as submitted: _____


Minutes approved as corrected: _____