

**DUBUQUE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF
December 12, 2016**

Commissioner Allen called the meeting of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission to order at 4:35 p.m. on Monday, November 14, 2016, at the City Hall Annex, 1300 Main Street, Conference Room II, Dubuque, Iowa.

Roll Call:

Present:	Sarah Fisher Miquel Jackson, Vice-Chair Kathrin Parks	Jay Schiesl Adrienne Scott
Absent:	Anthony Allen, Chair Fred Davis	Jeff Lenhart Shirley Templeton Vaughn
Staff:	Kelly Larson Taj Suleyman	Carol Spinoso

Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner Schiesl moved to approve the meeting minutes of November 14, 2016 as submitted. Commissioner Parks seconded. All in favor of approving the minutes as submitted.

Reports:

Caseload Report

The November 2016 Caseload Report was received and filed.

Chairperson Report

No report given.

Director's Report

Reports are submitted quarterly. Kelly announced that the City Clerk's office will be offering commissioner orientation on January 18th at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers. They will be covering the legal aspects like public meeting law, etc., that applies to all boards and commissions. They are encouraging participation by all new commission members as well as long-time commissioners as a refresher. Invitations will be sent out the end of the month.

Kelly reported that the White House is holding the final MBK Summit on December 14, and she and Anderson Sainci, as the Mayor's appointed Dubuque network representatives, will be traveling to DC to attend. She distributed materials that the White House had forwarded that encourages individuals throughout communities to engage in the #IamMBK Digital Day of Action. They are asking that people posting things that they are involved in that are specifically focused on mentoring, improving grade level achievement, graduation rates, etc. or anything that is related to reducing disparities for young men of color in the community.

Old Business:

New Business:

Commissioner Parks announced that following the election, a small group of concerned citizens formed "Let's Do This, Dubuque," on Facebook to create space for like-minded progressives to plan, organize, and act in our local community. The group decided that Source of Income would be the first issue they would focus on and support.

Standing Items: Goals

Goal 1: Research, illuminate and eliminate disparities and increase cultural competencies in education, housing, and employment. Initiatives identified.

Commissioner Schiesl reported that some time ago the DHRC developed the Plan for Sustainable Change that is similar to the initiatives they are currently working on under Goal #1. Anthony informed committee members that as part of that plan, some of the criminal justice issues, housing, employment, and the ban the box pieces are being addressed at both the local and state levels. They will be inviting Dan McDonald from GDDC to speak on job related issues, and Kris Hall, who previously held the Equity Coordinator position, to provide input and any data related to that position.

Goal 2: Continue to improve communication within and among community groups to improve human rights initiatives.

Due to a scheduling conflict, Tonya Engling from the Riverview Center will present at the February meeting.

Commissioner Fisher is gathering materials for the resource binder she is putting together for the transgender community.

Commissioner Parks stated that she is trying to determine which goal would be a good fit for her. She offered her expertise in research wherever needed. Commissioner Schiesl asked if she would be willing to look at the poverty data from the US Census Bureau that Dean Boles presented to the subcommittee. Possibly looking at other resources that would provide the poverty data to determine the true rates in Dubuque. Commissioner Schiesl will contact Dean to obtain the data and PowerPoint presentation for her to review.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Parks moved to adjourn. Commissioner Schiesl seconded. The Commission adjourned at 5:37 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 9, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.

Minutes approved as submitted: _____
Minutes approved as Corrected: _____

