

**DUBUQUE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF
May 8, 2017**

Commissioner Allen called the meeting of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission to order at 4:31 p.m. on Monday, May 8, 2017, at the City Hall Annex, 1300 Main Street, Conference Room II, Dubuque, Iowa.

Roll Call:

Present:	Anthony Allen, Chair	Jay Schiesl, Vice Chair
	Sarah Fisher	Adrienne Scott
	Fred Davis	Shirley Templeton Vaughn
	Kate Parks	

Absent: Miquel Jackson Indigo Channing

Staff: Carol Spinoso

Cori Burbach, Sustainability Coordinator for the City of Dubuque, introduced Leah Specht, Chair of the Resiliency Commission. She was present to observe meeting procedures.

Commissioner Reflection

Commissioner Templeton Vaughn stated that if commissioners couldn't attend the film screening of "I Am Not Your Negro", that Inclusive Dubuque sponsored on April 27, that the DVD can be rented or bought on-line. Commissioner Davis requested feedback from anyone who had an opportunity to attend any of the events that followed. Possibly Katrina from Inclusive Dubuque.

The St Mark Youth Enrichment Center is hosting their Heroes in Action Dinner Thursday, May 11th at 5:00 p.m. at the Julien Hotel.

Approval of Minutes:

Commissioner Templeton Vaughn moved to approve the meeting minutes of April 10, 2017. Commissioner Davis seconded. Commissioner Allen asked to strike the sentence that stated he had attended the Fountain of Youth event under Chairperson's Report. All in favor of approving the minutes as corrected.

Reports:

Caseload Report

The April 2017 Caseload Report was received and filed.

Chairperson Report

DCPRC – Anthony's stated that his term as chairperson will expire in July. He will not be seeking another term in that capacity.

NAACP – The Iowa Black Caucus recently had a town hall meeting at the Dream Center, and in follow-up to that meeting, people signed up to be a part of a group to focus on housing, employment, education, and incarceration issues in the community. Individuals will meet throughout the year and will invest their time working with groups and organizations that are already active in those focus areas.

Iowa Access to Justice – Full committee will meet in June. The Public Outreach Programming Committee is working to enhance resources at public libraries, and are considering hosting expungement fairs locally and throughout the State.

Steeple Square – Collaborating with photographer Steve Olson who is working on a community portrait of the Washington Neighborhood area. He is seeking individuals who have grown up in this area to provide stories for a book that will be published.

Director's Report

Written report provided quarterly.

Old Business:

New Business:

Appoint Commissioner to Dubuque Police Community Relations Committee

Commissioner Templeton Vaughn moved to reappoint Miquel Jackson as the primary DHRC representative to DCPRC. Commissioner Parks seconded. Roll call:

Allen	Yes	Schiesl	Yes
Fisher	Yes	Scott	Yes
Davis	Yes	Templeton Vaughn	Yes
Parks	Yes		

Motion carries.

Communication with Commissioners Outside Commission Meetings

Commissioner Schiesl seeking clarification on what types of conversations commissioners can engage in outside formal meetings. It was recommended that commissioners conversations be within regular meetings or subcommittee meetings. It is acceptable to share information that would be of interest to commissioners.

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 the committee sent a request to the School District to review an Equity Coordinator position description to identify what responsibilities they are currently undertaking. When they receive the results, they will draft a report to present at the June meeting.

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

Commissioner Templeton Vaughn distributed the Human Rights presentation. Carol will send out the electronic file.

Commissioner Davis will be presenting the PowerPoint to LGBTQ students at Hempstead on Wednesday, May 17th at 2:30 p.m. He encouraged Commissioner support.

Commissioner Templeton Vaughn announced that Resource Unit is holding their Outstanding Volunteer Awards night on June 1. Commissioners Parks and Davis volunteered to work with her on this. A subcommittee meeting was scheduled for May 16 at 4:15 p.m. to prepare for hosting a table at this event as well as any other upcoming events.

Nino Erba reported that he has not been successful in finding any court cases in support of the gay conversion therapy ordinance. He is requesting at the next meeting that they draft the language of the ordinance. Commissioner Fisher will proceed with scheduling a meeting for this month.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Templeton Vaughn moved and Commissioner Parks seconded to adjourn. The Commission adjourned at 5:35 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 12, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.

Minutes approved as submitted: _____

Minutes approved as corrected: _____