

**DUBUQUE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES OF  
November 18, 2019**

Commissioner Allen called the meeting of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission to order at 4:39 p.m. on Monday, November 18, 2019, at the Jule Operations & Training Center, 949 Kerper Blvd., Dubuque, Iowa.

**Roll Call:**

Present:	Anthony Allen, Chair Adrienne Breitfelder Miquel Jackson	Gerald Hammel Kathy McCarthy Jay Schiesl, Vice-Chair
Absent:	Erin Muenster Jason Keeler	Kate Parks
Staff:	Kelly Larson	Carol Spinoso

**Oath of Office**

The Chair administered the Oath of Office to Kathy McCarthy.

**Approval of October 14, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Motion by Hammel second by Schiesl to approve the meeting minutes of October 14, 2019. All in favor of accepting the meeting minutes as submitted.

**Reports**

**Caseload Report**

The October 2019 Caseload Report was received and filed.

**Chairperson's Report**

The NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet was held November 2<sup>nd</sup> at the 7 Hills Event Center. Quentin Hart, the first African-American Mayor of Waterloo was the Keynote speaker. Rev. Tim Bees received the Ruby Sutton Humanitarian Award, the Thom Determann S.C.O.P.E. Award went to the Multicultural Family Center, and the D.O.M.E. All Sports Athletic Award went to Kane McWilliams.

Spoke to two sociology classes at Clarke University on race and how it affects individuals working in social work. Also spoke with Commissioner Jackson on race and ethnicity at three Senior High classes.

The Chair and Rev. Bees spoke at Jubeck on forgiveness as it relates to those wrongly convicted of a crime.

Currently working with a group celebrating and honoring Robert Martin, a Tuskegee Airman from Dubuque.

**Director's Report**

The written quarterly report was submitted

**Old Business**

**Update on September bias incident – Mark Dalsing**

Dalsing reported that there is no new information to report on the incident. Police put it out on their social media network but no new information was produced. Currently there are no cameras located in Eagle Point Park because there is no fiber optic service available at that location.

**Discuss and create a standardized response to bias incidents**

The Commission will continue to respond to these incidents, but due to conflicts with commissioner availability and timeliness, it was suggested that the commission give the Chair the authority to draft a statement on their behalf without having to call a special meeting. They discussed sending that statement out through Civic Send so that it reaches other media outlets in addition to the TH. Additionally, as proactive measures, they discussed going into the schools to provide educational sessions; possibly publishing a piece in the City’s Focus newsletter, and just being present at other public events to educate the community. Schiesl moved that when bias incidents are reported to the Human Rights Commission, the Human Rights Commission authorize the chair to meet with the Director to collaborate on a response that the Chair then has the authority to send. Jackson seconded. Roll Call:

Anthony Allen	Yes	Gerald Hammel	Yes
Adrienne Breitfelder	Yes	Kathy McCarthy	Abstained
Miquel Jackson	Yes	Jay Schiesl	Yes

Motion carried.

Kelly will verify with Legal as to whether the Commission would have the authority to delegate to the Chair to release a statement on behalf of the Commission, and what the policy is in regards to staff sending out press information that is drafted by a commissioner.

**Update Liaison List:**

Commissioners Schiesl and McCarthy volunteered to serve as liaisons to the Housing Commission, and Commissioner McCarthy will provide updates to Gaining Opportunities. A suggestion was made to add the Dream Center and Fountain of Youth to the Community Liaisons to the DHRC list.

**New Business**

**Standing Items: Goals**

**Goal #1: Education**

**Goal #2: Housing**

**Goal #3: Employment**

**Update on Race Conference**

Registration was at 210 with additional walk-ins. Feedback was favorable, note cards were helpful and the topics covered were impressive. It was suggested that the public forum be held at the same space as the conference, and it was recommended to use a small group discussion method for questions as that process may bring more dialogue. Commissioner Jackson will compile the feedback forms from participants and the Conference Planning Committee will meet shortly to review those. Jackson will report back to the Commission at the December meeting. Possible dates for next year’s conference is October 8 and 9, 2020.

**Adjournment:**

Commissioner Jackson motioned and Commissioner Schiesl seconded to adjourn. All in favor. The meeting ended at 6:05 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, December 9, 2019, at the Jule Operations & Training Center, 949 Kerper Blvd.

Minutes approved as submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes approved as corrected: \_\_\_\_\_