

**CITY OF DUBUQUE
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF
September 28, 2011**

Commissioner Allen called the meeting of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission to order at 4:37 p.m. on Wednesday, September 28, 2011, at the City Hall Annex, 1300 Main Street, Conference Room II Dubuque, Iowa.

Roll Call:

Present:	Anthony Allen, Chair Kurt Hansen Mike Elliott	Mitzi Krey Regine Ronek Andrea Beacham
Absent:	Megan Gloss Judie Root	RRS Stewart
Staff:	Kelly Larson	Carol Spinoso

Reflections

Commissioner Allen reported that he attended the Fair Housing Training Conference in Kansas City last month. Commissioner Beacham shared that she had attended a presentation on mediation in Galena. She stated that the speaker co-authored "Getting to Yes." She also reported that the Curoe's, who wrote "Are There Closets in Heaven," were guest speakers at a recent PFLAG meeting. There were flyers available with information on a January 2012 conference to be held in Minneapolis for teachers on dealing with bullying. She is aware that the Southern Poverty Law Center also has a packet on teaching tolerance and thought that the commission should consider sponsoring similar events. Commissioner Allen suggested further discussion at goal setting.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Beacham moved to approve the Dubuque Human Rights Commission, Transit and the Housing Commission's joint meeting minutes of August 15, 2011. Commissioner Hansen seconded. All in favor of approving the meeting minutes as submitted.

Commissioner Elliott moved to approve the August 10, 2011 meeting minutes. Commissioner Beacham seconded. Commissioner Hansen stated that the minutes reflect that he was absent, but he was in fact in attendance. All in favor of approving the meeting minutes as amended.

Commissioner Allen entertained a motion to change the order of the agenda as Commissioner Krey will need to leave early. Commissioner Elliott moved and Commissioner Beacham seconded to change the order of the agenda. All in favor.

International Speakers' Bureau Update – Mitzi Krey

Commissioner Krey reported that last year the speakers' bureau had 325 speaking engagements, and that currently this year they have had 755 engagements. She stated that there are people from 45 different countries who currently reside in Dubuque. The group is also working with Craig Schaeffer at Loras to update the Diverse Dubuque DVD. She will write a grant to help with the expenses for that project.

Commissioner Krey was recently appointed Vice President of the NAACP. She stated that in an attempt to increase membership she will be sending out a letter to the community to make people realize that the NAACP is intended for multi-cultural, multi-ethnic and multi-religious people. She also reported that she has been doing research on black Dubuque, before, during and after the Civil War.

Reports

Caseload Report

A written report for August 2011 was submitted.

Chairperson's Report

As leadership on the Dubuque Community Advisory Panel (DCAP), Commissioners Allen and Beacham are working to restructure DCAP.

Director's Report

A written report was submitted.

Old Business

Review and Discuss Goals and Collaborations:

Goal #1: Fair Housing – Joint forum with Housing/Transit Commissions

Commissioner Allen reported that this goal was completed August 15.

Goal #2: Improve Commission Performance

Commissioner Beacham suggested that the Chair send out informal reminders for upcoming meetings.

Goal #3: Establish a Working Group to Facilitate Transportation Goals

This goal was completed August 15.

Goal #4: Establish a Tenant Association

Commissioner Allen felt that tenants were reluctant to form an association, and that the landlords are upset with some of the recommendations of the Safe Community Advisory Committee. He suggested further dialogue on this at goal setting

New Business

Commissioner Allen reminded everyone of the October 7 goal setting session at the Holiday Inn beginning at 5:00 p.m. Commissioner Beacham indicated that she has a commitment and that she will be arriving around 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Hansen and second by Commissioner Beacham. All in favor. The meeting of the Human Rights Commission adjourned at 5:28 PM.

Minutes approved as submitted: _____

Minutes approved as corrected: _____