

**DUBUQUE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF
July 11, 2016**

Commissioner Allen called the meeting of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission to order at 4:36 p.m. on Monday, July 11, 2016, at the City Hall Annex, 1300 Main Street, Conference Room II, Dubuque, Iowa.

Roll Call:

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

Approval of June 13, 2016 Minutes:

Commissioner Jackson moved to approve the meeting minutes of June 13, 2016 as submitted. Commissioner Scott seconded. All in favor of approving the minutes as submitted.

Reports:

Caseload Report

The June 2016 Caseload Report was received and filed.

Chairperson Report

Commissioner Allen reported that the NAACP is working with individuals within the prison system addressing concerns from people relating to all facets of the judicial system.

They are also working with the Sutton family to complete the Ruby Sutton Memorial. He invited commissioners to participate.

The BMC is meetings tonight to discuss structure and membership, and will be looking at possible funding sources.

Director's Report

A quarterly report was received and filed.

Old Business:

Discuss Specific Concerns Related to DCSD Equity Position

Commissioners felt the Equity Position was a much needed position. Commissioner Allen will invite Superintendent Stan Rheingans to attend the August commission meeting, and will prepare a series of questions to send to him prior to the meeting. He will share those questions with commissioners so they can provide input prior to forwarding to the Superintendent.

New Business:

The International Day of Peace Partnership Committee contacted the Commission asking whether they would be interested in partnering in Dubuque's celebration of the International Day of Peace Festival in September 2016. Commissioner Schiesl moved to partner with the International Day of Peace Festival by adding the Human Rights Commission to the list of partners, and publicizing the event through Commission resources. Commissioner Templeton Vaughn seconded. Roll call:

Anthony Allen	Yes	Jay Schiesl	Yes
Sarah Fisher	Yes	Adrienne Scott	Yes
Miquel Jackson	Yes	Shirley Templeton Vaughn	Yes
Jeff Lenhart	Yes		

Motion Carries.

Standing Items: Goals

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

Initiative: Research Every Student Succeeds Act and DCSD promotion and retention policy

Objective: To determine, if any, and/or what causes inequity in the school district.

Action Items:

1. Dialogue with DCSD Superintendent
2. Truancy, TAG
3. Dialogue/work session with School Board

Initiative: Evaluate the homeless issues and lack of affordable housing

Objective: Create awareness

Action Items:

1. Hold an educational forum on homelessness
2. Attend SOI dialogue sessions
3. Ted Williams coming to DBQ as speaker

Initiative: Employment – Research opportunities to determine if fair and equitable to the protected classes

Objective: Research to determine if employment opportunities in DBQ provide protected classes with fair and equity wages, opportunities, gainful employment and a workplace free of harassment and discrimination.

Action Items:

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

Initiative: Educate the community on transgender rights and begin with education of the Human Rights Commission;

Objective: Explore the issues facing the transgender community and what support they would like to see from the Human Rights Commission.

Action Items:

1. Invite speaker to Human Rights Commission meeting

Initiative: Continue basic human rights education in the community using prepared Presentation

Objective: Expand community awareness of the Human Rights Commission, including how to file a complaint

Action Items:

1. Update commission member and staff information on website and PowerPoint presentation

Initiative: Support Inclusive Dubuque working groups

Objective: Understand what actions are being taken in the sector groups so we do not overlap and also know how/where we can lend support

Action Items:

1. Attend working group meetings
2. Invite someone from ID to DHRC meeting to provide an update

Commissioner Templeton Vaughn moved to accept the goals, initiatives and action items as amended. Commissioner Schiesl seconded. Roll call:

Anthony Allen	Yes	Jay Schiesl	Yes
Sarah Fisher	Yes	Adrienne Scott	Yes
Miquel Jackson	Yes	Shirley Templeton Vaughn	Yes
Jeff Lenhart	Yes		

Motion carried.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Templeton Vaughn, second by Commissioner Scott. The meeting of the Human Rights Commission adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 8, 2016 at 4:30 p.m.

Minutes approved as submitted: _____

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