

**DUBUQUE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES OF
June 16, 2017**

Commissioner Allen called the meeting of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission to order at 3:32 p.m. on Friday, June 16, 2017, at the City Hall Annex, 1300 Main Street, Conference Room II, Dubuque, Iowa.

Roll Call:

Present:	Anthony Allen, Chair Sarah Fisher Indigo Channing	Jay Schiesl, Vice Chair Miquel Jackson
Absent:	Fred Davis Shirley Templeton Vaughn	Kate Parks Adrienne Scott
Staff:	Kelly Larson	Taj Suleyman

Discuss Responding to Cox Street Graffiti

The incident occurred the day after the Orlando anniversary which sends a direct message - recognizing don't know intent; impact has caused some concern for people. They need to show there are resources for support, and education for the community. There have not been any educational events during Pride month this year yet, but Indy may offer a Queer 101 and Ally training as part of her job.

Anthony clarified if the Human Rights Commission wants to send statement to community they can do so. They can potentially make a statement with opportunities for engagement/resources, and address community fear. Statistically 40% homeless youth LGBTQ across the nation, and this year has been the worst year for bullying in schools. There is a need for support for youth in particular, especially those not out.

The City's commitment to inclusion recently in public eye and statement might tie to that - maybe bridge to what has been public in TH.

It was shared that there were 13 trans murders this year. Resources available in Dubuque are: MFC youth group which meets the second Thursday each month 4:30-6:30; adult group 4th Th 4:30-6:30; a Facebook group, Better Together Dubuque and Co-Dbq, as well as This is me iowa.org.

Statement content: We recognize there was offensive LGBTQ graffiti reported on June 13, 2017, the day after the anniversary of the Orlando massacre, and Pride month; and as a commission want to offer support; tie to being inclusive city; welcoming city proclamation and Pride Month proclamation. Pull language about progressive community and right to live in conditions of dignity, respect, peace, and safety from LGBTQ proclamation. Re-affirm the proclamation. Slurs open display of hostility and creates fear - statement needs to convey why these words are so powerful they should not be used because creates fear, disconnect, insecurity (identify these impacts - message is want people to understand why this is a big deal). Makes people want to not be their authentic selves. HRC offer of support.

Commissioner Channing moved to issue a Commission statement about bias incident against LGBTQ community on Monday, June 19, 2017; second by Commissioner Fisher. Roll call vote:

Allen	Yes	Schiesl	Yes
Channing	Yes	Miquel	Yes
Sarah	Yes		

Motion carried.

Adjournment:

Commissioner Channing move adjourn; second by Commissioner Schiesl. Meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Minutes approved as submitted: 

Minutes approved as corrected: _____