

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

Commissioner Allen called the meeting of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission to order at 4:34 p.m. on Monday, February 18, 2019, at the Jule Operations & Training Center, 949 Kerper Blvd., Dubuque, Iowa.

**Roll Call:**

Present:	Anthony Allen, Chair Nicole Borovic Adrienne Breitfelder Gerald Hammel	Miquel Jackson Jay Schiesl, Vice Chair Kate Parks
Absent:	Ashley Melchert	Erin Muenster
Staff:	Kelly Larson Kecia Dougherty	Carol Spinoso

**Oath of Office**

The Chair administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Breitfelder.

**Approval of Minutes from January 14, 2019**

Motion by Schiesl, second by Hammel to approve the meeting minutes of January 14, 2019. All in favor. Commissioner Breitfelder abstained.

**Reports**

**Caseload Report**

The January 2019 caseload report was received and filed.

**Chairperson's Report**

No report given.

**Director's Report**

Written quarterly report received and filed.

**Old Business**

**New Business**

**Discuss Response to Bias Incident**

The Chair conveyed that information was received about a recent bias incident that occurred at Burden Park. A vehicle drove by the park where African American children were playing and yelled racial epithets at them. Chief Dalsing provided information related to the criminal aspect. He stated that the mother reported the incident to a community member on Thursday, and then contacted the Police Department on Friday. He stated there aren't cameras in that park, but looked at other cameras in the area and came up with a possible car. They followed up on the vehicle and identified and charged a 17-year-old male.

Commissioner Schiesl moved that the Commission draft a response to the bias incident in the form of an op-ed to submit to the Telegraph Herald. Commissioner Hammel seconded. All in favor. Commissioners interested in submitting their responses should submit to the Chair or Carol.

## **Standing Items: Goals**

### **Goal #1: Education**

Mae Hingtgen, Tami Ryan, and Stan Rheingans were present to provide information on DCSD student achievement and school demographics, along with equity action plans, and the status of the Equity Facilitator position.

Mae reported that last year they organized a district equity committee. Membership is comprised of members from the school district and community partners. The committee set the following priorities: 1) finalize an equity definition; 2) review and audit the district policies; 3) audit the visual environment of schools; 4) review professional development for staff. Mae stated that the job description for the full-time Equity Facilitator position has been posted, and they anticipate filling that position within the next three to four weeks.

Stan reviewed the student achievement and school demographics data. He stated that they could certainly provide more specific data if requested. The Chair shared the commission's goals related to education. The Chair will reach out to DCSD Staff to scheduling a follow-up session.

### **Goal #2: Housing**

Commissioner Parks moved to table the discussion on the Annual Source of Income Report to the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. Jackson seconded. All in favor.

Alexis Steger and Theresa Bassler from the Housing & Community Development Department will be attending the March 11<sup>th</sup> meeting to provide an update on the Housing Voucher Program, and report on the strategy for implementation of the Source of Income recommendations.

### **Goal #3: Employment**

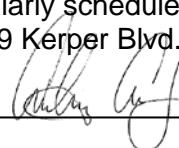
Kelly explained that during the department's budget hearing, a question was raised related to the decision package request for the race conference. Specifically, whether the promotional material would include the names of the organizations involved in planning the conference, one of which is partisan. This council member was concerned that listing a partisan group may have an impact on attendance. Commissioner Jackson moved that promotional materials for the Race Conference will only include the organizations that make a financial or in-kind contributions. Commissioner Parks seconded. Roll call:

Anthony Allen	Yes	Miquel Jackson	Yes
Nicole Borovic	Yes	Jay Schiesl	Yes
Adrienne Breitfelder	Yes	Kate Parks	Yes
Gerald Hammel	Yes		

Motion carried.

## **Adjournment:**

Commissioner Parks motioned and Commissioner Jackson seconded to adjourn. All in favor. The meeting ended at 5:55 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting is Monday, March 11, 2019, at the Jule Operations & Training Center, 949 Kerper Blvd.

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

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