



**HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 4, 2018**

A meeting of the Human Rights Commission was held at 5:30 p.m., City Hall, 5th Floor, Council Chambers, 405 6th Street, Sioux City, IA 51101.

Commissioners Present

Jim Anderson
Julie Berens
Mary Day
Tracy Everett
Jean Graham
Steele Welcher
Tracy Winters

Staff Present

Sharon Holder
Karen Mackey
Jessica Ryan
Lynn Zerschling
Connie Anstey (Legal)

Commissioners Absent

Sue Hartwell (excused)
Richard Moore (excused)
Scott Raasch (excused)

Staff Absent

Lana Becker (excused)
Paul Flemming (excused)

1. Roll call

Meeting was called to order by Tracy Everett, Chairperson, at 5:30 p.m.

2. Approval of the minutes of the December 7, 2017, meeting.

Ms. Berens moved to approve the minutes from the December 7, 2017, meeting; Mr. Anderson seconded. All voted in favor.

3. Closed Session

Ms. Graham moved to go into closed session of the Commission to review or discuss records which are required or authorized by Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(a) or (f) or federal law to be kept confidential. Mr. Anderson seconded. All voted in favor.

Mr. Anderson moved to return to open session, Ms. Berens seconded. All voted in favor.

After returning to open session, Sr. Day moved to accept staff's no probable cause recommendation, in Case 11-1424; Ms. Everett seconded. All voted in favor.

4. Upcoming Events

a. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (January 15, 2018)

Ms. Mackey stated that Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church will be hosting a Birthday celebration in honor of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The celebration will be held on Monday, January 15th, at 7:00 p.m. at Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church. There will be a rehearsal on January 4th and January 11th at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Mackey encouraged Commissioners to participate.

b. Race, Privilege and Our Community (February 2018)

Ms. Mackey stated that she is working with the NAACP for this event which is a follow up to the Unity in the Community event.

c. Faces of Siouxland (April 2, 2018)

Faces of Siouxland will be held on Sunday, April 8th, from Noon to 4 p.m. at the Sioux City Convention Center. Ms. Mackey asked Commissioners to help with finding entertainment and getting information out to local organizations.

5. Staff reports

A copy of the Directors' report was included in the monthly packet.

Ms. Mackey stated that she will be gone from January 23rd to January 29th. She will be attending the Creating Change Conference in Washington, D.C.

Ms. Mackey stated that our budget hearing will be on Saturday, February 3rd, at 8:25 a.m. She stated that she met with the City Manager and Finance Director and asked for additional money for the Faces of Siouxland Multi-Cultural Fair. The City Manager denied her request even though she advised that several City Council members had encouraged her to ask for more funding during the budget review process. The Commission advised her to bring it up during the joint meeting with City Council in May.

Ms. Mackey stated that the Iowa Department of Human Rights will hold a Legislative Day on March 7th, from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the State Capitol Rotunda in Des Moines.

Ms. Mackey stated that the 32nd Des Moines Civil and Human Rights Symposium "Blueprint to Building Community" will be on March 14th, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

6. Old Business

None

7. New Business

Sr. Day stated that a follow up to "Unity in the Community" will be held at Mary Treglia Community House on Sunday, January 21st, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. A panel will speak on the law and rights of immigrants. A potluck will follow.

8. Citizen concerns

None

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lana Becker, Administrative Secretary