



**HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 7, 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
Jean Graham
Patricia Hartwell
Nia Key
Richard Moore
Scott Raasch
Steele Welcher

Staff Present

Karen Mackey
Sharon Holder
Jessica Ryan
Ally Hecht (Intern)
Connie Anstey (Legal)

Staff Absent

Paul Flemming
Lynn Zerschling

Commissioners Absent

Tracy Everett (Excused)
Tracy Winters (Excused)

Roll call

Meeting was called to order by Julie Berens, Vice Chair, at 5:30 p.m.

1. Introductions were made by commissioners to new intern, Ally Hecht.
2. Approval of the minutes of the May 3, 2018, meeting.

Hearing no additions or corrections, the minutes stand approved as presented.

3. Closed Session

Rev. Moore moved to go into closed session of the Commission pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(1) (c) to discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the governmental body in that litigation. Mr. Anderson seconded. All voted in favor.

Ms. Key moved to return to open session. All voted in favor.

After returning to open session, Ms. Graham moved to accept closure upon receipt of conciliation documents, in Case 11-1444; Mr. Raasch seconded. All voted in favor.

Sr. Day moved to accept staff's no probable cause recommendation, in Case 11-1448. Rev. Moore seconded. All voted in favor.

4. Upcoming Events

- a. Landlord/Property Manager training.

Ms. Mackey advised that the Landlord/Property Manager training will be Monday, June 11, 2018 from 10 am- 2 pm. At the museum. We currently have 20 attendees registered.

- b. Gay Pride Picnic (Saturday, June 9, 2018)

The Gay Pride event will be held at the big shelter on the water front at Chris Larsen Park from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The picnic starts at Noon. We have 20 or so community organizations participating in an informational/community fair. There will be lawn games, activities for children, free food.

- c. Asian Festival (June 16, 2018)

The Asian Festival will be held at Riverside Park. Jessica and Ally will be attending for our office. It runs from Noon – 4 p.m.

- d. Mental Health Forum/ Education on Bias (TBD)

Staff discussed possibility of holding a forum that was focused toward mental health providers and assistance animals. Ms. Key discussed a variety of topics and options for discussion that touched on several mental health issues. Mr. Anderson discussed rising suicide rates and the need for education on warning signs. Ms. Mackey discussed partnering with another organization that might better address the multitude of factors that were brought up. Staff would work on finding partner organizations that could host a forum or civil rights academy with.

5. Staff Reports

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

Additionally, there will be an African night on Saturday August 4 at First United Methodist Church from 2pm-7pm.

There will be a free training on Trauma/Informed Care of June 20th, from 5-9 pm. As well as Fair Housing Training in Omaha.

Ms. Mackey discussed intern Ally Hecht area of focus. Her position is funded through Tyson and Campus Compact. She will focus on outreach events at organizations like Mary Treglia and Girl's Inc.

6. Old Business

Juneteenth was cancelled. There is discussion of a movie showing.

7. New Business

Ms. Mackey's review committee consists of Ms. Winters, Ms. Everett and Ms. Berens. Their response is needed whenever possible.

The issue of insurance for events still does not have a definitive answer. We will continue to assess the need and determine on the size of the event.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m.