



**HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMISSION
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2019**

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

Julie Berens
Mary Day
Charlotte Gorter
Chris Jensen
Billy Oyadare
Don Scarlett
Steele Welcher
Tracy Winters

Staff Present

Karen Mackey
Sharon Holder
Jessica Ryan
Connie Anstey (Legal)

Staff Absent

Haley Hines (excused)
Tani Russell (excused)

Commissioners Absent

Rev. Richard Moore (excused)
Robert Stewart (unexcused)

1. Roll call

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

2. Approval of the minutes of the September 5, 2019 meeting.

Ms. Berens moved to approve the minutes from the September 5, 2019 meetings; All voted in favor. Minutes stand approved.

3. Closed Session

Ms. Day 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. Scarlett seconded. All voted in favor.

Mr. Scarlett moved to return to open session, Ms. Day seconded. All voted in favor

After returning to open session, Mr. Jensen moved to accept the finding recommendation of No Probable Cause agreement in Case 11-1506; Ms. Gorter seconded. All voted in favor.

Ms. Winters moved to accept staff's No Probable Cause finding recommendation, in Case 11-1484; Mr. Scarlett seconded. All voted in favor.

4. Upcoming Events

- a. This is What Leaders Look Like (Wednesday, October 23, 2019)

Ms. Mackey shared that an event will be held on Wednesday, October 23, 2019 from 6-8:30 p.m. at the Sioux City Public Museum. The forum will focus on local women in leadership. Speakers will come from several industries in both the public and private sector.

b. Driving While Brown (Wednesday, November 20, 2019)

Ms. Mackey shared that this event was still in its planning stages and would be held in conjunction with members of law enforcement. The focus of this event would be for community members to engage positively and communicate openly with members of law enforcement about what to do when pulled over or stopped by the police.

c. Universal Human Rights Day (Tuesday, December 10, 2019)

The annual War Eagle Human Rights Award will be presented at this event. It will be held at the Sioux City Public Museum on Tuesday December 10, 2019. Nomination forms will be posted and will be accepted through November.

5. Staff reports

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

Ms. Mackey advised commissioners of an ongoing issue between members of a small island nation and a local employer. Ms. Mackey shared that several agencies have been contacted and are working in conjunction to resolve ongoing issues.

6. Old Business

None.

7. New Business

Ms. Mackey shared her annual report. She highlighted areas for improvement, the increased number of outreach events and reiterated a goal of issuing findings within 180 days. Ms. Day moved to approve the annual report as amended. Mr. Scarlett seconded. All approved.

Ms. Mackey asked that commissioners please share that nominations for the War Eagle Award are being solicited. Help with getting the word out is always appreciated.

Ms. Mackey shared that Izamar Carrillo resigned as Clerical Assistant. Duties will be absorbed by other staff.

8. Citizen concerns

None.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jessica Ryan, Administrative Secretary