

Duluth Human Rights Commission (HRC)

Regular Meeting - minutes

Wednesday, April 13, 2022 @ 5:30pm

City Hall Room 430

1. Call to Order
 - a. Meeting called to order at 5:30pm
 - b. Commissioners present: Commissioner Lue, Commissioner Tyacke, Commissioner Huber, Commissioner Jaramillo, Commissioner Lyons, Commissioner Wittenberg, Commissioner Singer
 - c. Commissioners absent: Commissioner Keppers, Commissioner van den Bosse
 - d. Guests: Human Rights Officer (HRO) Carl Crawford, Betty Greene & Kathleen Spencer (community members)
2. Consent of Meeting Minutes - March 9, 2022
 - a. Motioned to approve by Commissioner Huber; seconded by Commissioner Singer; approved unanimously by the Commissioners
3. Public Comments and Written Comments
 - a. Written public comments submitted prior to meeting
 - i. None
 - b. Live public comments
 - i. None
4. Executive Team Report
 - a. Educational Series was initially three different sessions
 - i. After discussing, decided to take the summer to plan these out intentionally
 - ii. Hoping the Commissioner Huber would take the lead with the events committee on the topic of racism and inequities in the school district
 - iii. Want this topic and forum to be the first step in the educational series
 - iv. The Department of Human Rights did identify our school district as a district that was high in inequitable suspension rates
 1. ISD 709 was mandated to report to us on this issue (specifically the previous superintendent), and this could be used as a segway into this conversation
 - v. Should possibly create an opportunity for families for storytelling without outing particular students
5. Findings Committee Report
 - a. Was not able to meet this month
6. Research Committee Report
 - a. Followed up on research regarding the Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the Rwanda Genocide on April 7th
7. Events Committee Report
 - a. School district/education session
 - i. Will get in touch with Commissioner Huber to plan out what the first session will look like

- ii. As we get closer, we can also look at a venue and possible child care for this event
 - b. Tabling at St. Louis County Health and Human Services Conference (Executive Committee)
 - i. Dates are October 12-14, 2022 at the DECC
 - ii. The theme is "Coming Together: Community, Unity, and Hope"
 - iii. Do we as a commission want to do a presentation?
 - 1. Presentation proposals are due at the end of May
 - 2. An ad hoc committee can be formed to create a presentation. Laura will send out the ask via email
 - iv. Do we as a commission want to table? Tabling only occurs October 12-13, 2022
 - 1. \$300-\$600 to have a table
 - c. Pride events (Executive Committee)
 - i. 2022 Duluth-Superior Pride is on September 3rd (should we collaborate with the Duluth NQT2SLGBIA commission) - Tyra will ask a representative from that commission
 - ii. The Pride Committee is open to all
 - 1. Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of each month, from 7:30pm-9:30pm
 - d. White Privilege Symposium is on May 13th and 14th at the DECC (Friday evening and all day Saturday)
 - i. Looking for volunteers to help register people, seat people, give directions, etc.
 - ii. The hosts are willing to bring prices down for those who are in financial need
 - iii. The flier can be made available to give more information about this event
- 8. Racial Bias Audit Update
 - a. Received feedback from another police department, and that feedback has been incorporated in the RFP
 - b. Will be moving forward to the city purchasing office, as a call to auditors to answer
- 9. Human Rights Officer Report
 - a. Working with Affordable Housing Coalition - they are starting to plan their conference right now
 - b. Working with the DTA and Disabilities Commission about snow removal
 - i. Often the bus stops in Duluth are not clean of snow right away
 - ii. What are we going to do about bus stops for next year? Who is responsible for that?
 - c. Redlining presentation went great and was well-received
 - d. The Unity Fund Group is planning a Juneteenth celebration. City Hall will be closed on this federal holiday, but looking to plan a kickoff event on Friday, another larger event on Saturday, and a brunch on Sunday
 - i. Details about the event and volunteering will be coming soon

- e. Working with our unsheltered community
 - i. The media continues to refer to being unsheltered as “camping”
 - f. Presented at Alexandria College about conflict bias and conflict management
 - g. Speak Your Peace has been hosting community conversations on various topics
 - h. Attended the Transgender Day of Visibility event in Duluth
 - i. This should be everyday, not just one day
 - i. Attended the Bias Report presentation
 - i. Technology is becoming a human right
 - ii. During Covid, a lot of kids could not connect, and were missing out on their education
 - iii. For a lot of folks, not having access to a library means not having access to any technology
 - j. Had a discussion with the Duluth Aging Group
 - i. What are the policies and procedures that we have in place? How does that reflect on our elder population?
10. Announcements and Upcoming Events
- a. Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women day of recognition on May 5th
 - i. Will create something about this to be put on the City of Duluth Facebook page
 - b. April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month
 - i. April 25, 11am - 12pm virtual presentation from PAVSA
 - 1. “Am I OK? Medical Options Available After Sexual Assault”
11. Additional Public Comments and Commissioner Comments
- a. Betty Greene: What is happening this year with CJM? How will that correlate with the Juneteenth event?
 - i. HRO Carl Crawford stated the event will be around the Friday closest to June 15th
 - b. Betty Greene: When the new warming center was announced with the new shower facilities, and many community members thought the hygiene center would be open year round, not just the winter
 - i. Hygiene is a year round need
 - ii. There is still a two stall hygiene center at the Damiano Center
 - c. Commissioner Tyake and HRO Carl Crawford: the Anti-Lynching Bill is now a law
12. Request for Agenda Items for Next Meeting
- a. Forward to Carl and Laura
13. Adjourn
- a. Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by:
Tyra Jaramillo, Secretary