

Duluth Human Rights Commission (HRC)

Regular Meeting - minutes

Wednesday, September 14, 2022 @ 5:30pm

City Hall Room 330

1. Call to Order
 - a. Meeting called to order at 5:30pm
 - b. Commissioners present: Commissioners Lyons, Lue, Tyacke, Keppers, Jaramillo, Wittenberg, & Huber
 - c. Commissioners absent: Commissioners Singer & van den Bosse
 - d. Guests: Human Rights Officer (HRO) Carl Crawford
2. Consent of Minutes - August 10, 2022
 - a. Motioned to approve by Commissioner Keppers; seconded by Commissioner Tyacke
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. Met on Monday to create the new 2022/2023 work plan
 - i. Will be sent to Laura, who will send it to the rest of the commission to be approved
 - ii. October 10 is National Coming Out Day, and National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week is in November, and the plan is to send out a social media post regarding those times of recognition
 - iii. Also brainstormed some workshops the commission could do regarding: healthcare access, restorative justice in education, human trafficking, and the Racial Bias Audit
5. Findings Committee Report
 - a. Did not meet, but plan to meet in October before the next general meeting
6. Research Committee Report
 - a. No research requests have come in in the past month
7. Communications Committee Report
 - a. Met with new communications official for the city of Duluth (Kelly) who will post our media suggestions on City of Duluth media
 - i. The city of Duluth has a podcast and a YouTube channel, and commissioners can be invited to speak on that podcast
 - ii. Also uses Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and NextDoor
 - iii. Question from Kelly: what pages on the City of Duluth website do we want the QR code for?
 1. It is difficult to file a human rights complaint over the phone as the systems do not work well together - is this a possible accessibility issue?

2. Might be most useful to have the QR code direct people to the human rights resource page, in case people want to access the site for other resources other than filing a complaint
3. Consensus: use the QR code to access the main resource page
4. We should also continue to discuss the language on the website to make sure that we are using consistent verbiage
5. The communications committee will meet to compile changes to the website that the commission would want to see, and those suggestions can be sent over to IT to see if those changes are possible

8. Events Committee Report

- a. The letters to organizations are formatted and ready to go, but we are unaware if they have been mailed out yet
 - i. Laura will follow up if they have been sent out or not
- b. The Pride Parade went great!
 - i. However, the Pride Festival was packed - it is a big time commitment, but we should make it a priority to be there next year in order to have the opportunity to talk to the community
 - ii. Another good opportunity might be the ISD 709 kickoff (Unity in our Community) next year as well
 1. This year was the first year the event took place, so we are currently unaware if it will be happening again
 2. There is a statewide PTA meeting this upcoming Friday, and Commissioner Wittenberg will see if it is possible for the Human Rights Commission to sign up for next year's event

9. Racial Bias Audit Update

- a. On August 22nd, the group presented to City Council about the work they have been doing for the past year
 - i. Everything was approved to move forward with the Crime and Justice Institute (CJI) to lead the racial bias audit
 - ii. Not sure what the next steps are at this time, but should have more updates at the next Human Rights Commission general meeting

10. Human Rights Officer Report

- a. The Ordinance regarding the indoor/outdoor living space passed in City Council
 - i. There is land available for this, but there are not enough people applying for the jobs to keep the property staffed 24/7
 - ii. Folks can apply for jobs by contacting Stepping on Up
 - iii. Stepping on Up also has many educational sessions coming up regarding homelessness in our communities. All sessions involve a background on homelessness, with an added topic training:
 1. September 22nd: "Trauma Informed Approach" at Lakeside Presbyterian
 2. October 6th: "Mental Health Crisis Response" at Lakeside Presbyterian

3. October 20: "Human Trafficking & Sexual Violence" at First Covenant Church
4. November 3: "Substance Use Recovery and Harm Reduction" @ Twelve Holy Apostles Church
5. November 17: "Understanding and De-escalating Conflict" @ Twelve Holy Apostles Church
- b. Mike Tusken is officially retired
 - i. Carl Crawford was a part of the interview process for the new chief
 - ii. There is a meet and greet with the finalist for the position tomorrow night at Myers Wilkins Elementary School
- c. We are again starting to talk about snow
 - i. Accessibility in our community, even when the snow falls
11. Announcements and Upcoming Events
 - a. This Friday from 7-9pm is "Kumbayah: The Juneteenth Story" at , and Carl Crawford will be hosting the dialogue after the play
 - b. The St. Louis County Historical Society is hosting their Centennial Party on Friday as well
 - c. Tomorrow (September 15th) is the start of Latinx History Month
 - d. As we get closer to Halloween, continue to consider culturally appropriate costumes and opportunities to have fun
 - e. The St. Louis County Conference is coming up in October, and Carl Crawford, Tyra Jaramillo, and Marsha Lue will be presenting at 3pm on October 13th
 - f. Question from Commissioner Wittenberg: is there a place where we have a list of events in order to keep track of them?
 - i. Not currently, but they are listed in the meeting minutes
 - g. The second annual northeast Minnesota equity summit is taking place on November 10th, in Virginia, MN, from 8am-3:30pm
 - i. Point of contact is Amber Lewis
12. Additional Public Comments and Commissioner Comments
 - a. None
13. Request for Agenda Items for Next Meeting
 - a. Can be emailed to Laura for the next meeting
14. Adjourn
 - a. Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm
 - b. Next meeting is October 12, 2022

Minutes respectfully submitted by:
Tyra Jaramillo, Secretary