

Duluth Human Rights Commission

Regular Meeting Notes

March 11, 2020 at 5:30PM

City Hall, Room 330

- I. Roll Call - President Princess Kisob chaired the meeting and called to order at 5:35PM
 - A. Commissioners present: Ashley Grimm, Carl Huber, Bettina Keppers, Princess Kisob, and Ashley Neenan
 - B. Commissioners absent: Mark Hakes (excused), Ri Preap (excused), and Sandra van den Bosse (excused)

- II. Consent Agenda
 - A. Motion to approve February 12, 2020 Regular Meeting notes was made by Commissioner Grimm and passed unanimously

- III. Public Comments
 - A. T. Gordon Anderson requested assistance from the Commission in his plight as composer and musician. He provided us the history of his journey of injustice (flyer included in the meeting notes). He is facing the possibility of being homeless given his situation.

- IV. Chair/Vice Chair Report
 - A. Chair Kisbo - excused absence/no report
 - B. Vice Chair Grimm
 1. Suggested strategic meeting to include former Commissioners to give context and history of the Human Rights Commission (HRC) for the Commissioners retreat

- V. Committee Reports
 - A. Gender & Sexuality - Commissioner Keppers
 1. Met for first time in February and discussed the following:
 - a) Pride March beginning discussions for Commissioners full participation
 - b) Develop a pamphlet for the HRC and began the discussion on what to cover
 - c) CEDAW - no one had any involvement
 - d) Upcoming meeting with the Director of MN WorkForce Center

- e) Identifying community organizations to reach out to partner with including Men As Peacemakers, YWCA, Spirit Community, Student Unions through colleges
- f) Facebook page currently has challenges with legal issues regarding postings and needs to be disability compliant
- g) Need for name tags and signs to identify HRC as events. Commissioner van den Bosse is working on securing these items.

B. Education - did not meet

- 1. Get looped into EEA (local group focused on education equity)
- 2. Announcement of the six candidates for the Duluth ISD709 Superintendent search

C. Findings - did not meet

D. Housing Justice

- 1. Meeting at the DaMiano Center at 6:30PM on Monday 16
- 2. Affordable housing crisis as propose to demolition 19 units
- 3. Increase 60 to 100 with a 10% increase each year to 175 for higher rentals reducing the availability of affordable housing

VI. Strategic Planning/Retreat update - Commissioner Huber

- A. Looking to schedule a 5 hour retreat on a Saturday available to a majority of the Commissioner
- B. Focus on the role as outlined in Article I, Sec. 29C-5 Same-Powers and duties generally as outlined in Chapter 29C Human Rights
- C. Develop plan to execute 3 to 5 goals for coming year and future planning

VII. Community Correspondence

- A. Press release on Census for 2020. Discuss to allow workers to go into multi-unit buildings to ensure everyone is counted and provide an accurate count of disenfranchised people.

VIII. Human Rights Officer Crawford's report

- A. Provided January 2020 and February 2020 Human Rights Officer Activities. (Provided in the meeting notes).
- B. Commissioners unanimously accepted these reports and reviewed the activities
- C. Conversion Therapy - there was a question if reports have been generated by the City Council. Community outreach was discussed. And churches do not have to disclose.

- IX. Second reading/vote for change to bylaws
 - A. The second reading of proposed changes to HRC By-laws occurred regarding mission, officer duties, and subcommittees.
 - B. Approval of the changes was unanimously accepted (Provided in the meeting notes)

- X. Adjournment - 6:30PM

Respectfully submitted by
Commissioner Huber, Secretary