



Meeting Minutes

Commission Room, City Hall

March 19, 2019

3:00pm

Commission members present:, Kimberly Huff, Tana Zwart, Sarah Jo Jorgensen, Josh Reinfeld, Morgan Jackson, Carolyn Ly-Donovan

Commission members absent: Sheila Sandness

Staff present: Valerie Schonewill, Human Relations Specialist

Guests: Stacy Kooistra, City Attorney, film crew for MDA video about Zwart

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 3:04 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

January minutes were approved.

Human Relations Office Update

Kooistra provided an update that the City would soon be hiring a new Assistant City Attorney who would be the ADA Coordinator and also the Human Relations Attorney.

Report on Community Action for Veterans Living Library

Jorgenson provided a report on the Community Action for Veterans Living Library, said the attendance was down due to a blizzard but it went well.

Civil Rights Update

Schonewill provided the group with information about the Human Relations Office discrimination cases – 14 of the 42 open cases are based on disability. (33%).

The Justice Department reached an agreement with Harris County, Texas, to resolve its lawsuit alleging that Harris County violated ADA by failing to provide an accessible voting program to voters with disabilities, including accessible polling places. Harris County will implement policies to bring voting program into compliance with the ADA.

A suit filed in U.S. District Court in Galveston, Texas alleges that an eight-building addition and rental office have accessibility barriers that inhibit access to ground-floor units and the associated public and common-use areas.

Complaint filed by resident who could not get from her apartment to parking area unassisted. Lawsuit seeking order to bring premises to compliance with the Fair Housing Act and the ADA.

Public Comment

No public was present for public comment.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:03 pm.

The next DAC meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2019 at 3:00pm in the Human Relations Conference Room.

Minutes submitted by Valerie Schonewill.