

MINUTES

Thursday, August 12, 2010



**Sioux Falls
Human Relations
Commission**

12 Noon—1 p.m.
Commission Room, First Floor
City Hall
224 West Ninth Street

Commissioners: Present: Ahrendt, Aware, Carlson, Hariri, Lodu, Rist, Waara, and Williams,

Absent: Abbott, Guzman, Luecke, and DAC Liaison.

Staff: Gary Colwill, Human Relations Manager; and Carol Garry, Human Relations Assistant.

Guests: Dave Pfeifle, City Attorney

1. Call to Order/Welcome Guests

Chairperson Hariri called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm. Introduced Dave Pfeifle, the City Attorney, new head of the department for Human Relations. Roundtable introductions followed.

2. Approval of Minutes

Carlson moved to approve the minutes from July 8, 2010, meeting; Rist provided the second. The minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

3. Status of Cases/Staff Report

Colwill updated the Commission on the status of the open cases. The oldest case is a probable cause that is still open due to failure to locate the respondent since he went out of business. Three cases will be going out to the case panel today and has promised two more next week.

Colwill announced that the Commission will have a new contract investigator to help move cases through the process. The new investigator is a USD Law School professor. She teaches legal writing and will be teaching employment discrimination.

4. Appointment—August Case Panel

Abbott, Ahrendt, Carlson, Luecke and Williams

5. Continuing Business

a. **HRC Education Committee Report** – Ahrendt reported

The Committee put together a rough draft of the 'cheat sheet' for Commissioners to use when asked about their work on the Commission. The

Commission Chair: Vaney Hariri

Commission Vice Chair: Clint Waara

Commission 3rd Officer: Teresa Luecke

Enforcement Committee
Chair—Dwayne Williams
Rod Carlson
Vaney Hariri
James Lodu
Terry Rist
Staff – Gary Colwill

Education Committee
Chair -Karla Abbott
Val Ahrendt
Vaney Hariri
Teresa Luecke
Staff – Carol Garry

Events Committee
Chair - Clint Waara
Qadir Aware
Rod Carlson
Sandra Guzman
Vaney Hariri
Staff- Carol Garry

goal was to provide consistency in the language we use to describe the commission's role and responsibilities. The final document will be distributed to the entire Commission.

The Committee has also been looking at other HRC websites for ways to improve the HRC's brochure to make it user friendly but still provide the basic information.

b. HRC Enforcement Committee Report – Committee Chair Williams reported.

The task of the Enforcement Committee is to rewrite the human relations ordinance. Colwill needs a couple more weeks to work on it. They would like to bring the revised ordinance to the City Council this fall.

c. HRC Events Committee Report – Carlson reported

The Events Committee met earlier this week to review the fifteen nominees for this year's award. The top four were selected for the Commission to review and select the recipient/finalists.

All of the nominations will be in the printed program for the award program. Only the three finalists will be read during the program though we will ask all the nominees to stand and be recognized.

The Committee reviewed the two menus submitted and accepted Hy-Vee's at \$11 per person. We did get private sponsors for the reception and entertainment. Nothing final on the entertainment other than the Lost Artists. We are looking at David Jones during the reception and some type of instrumental music during the transition into the theater.

The Humanitarian logo has been selected. It incorporates the award's design and is purple in color. Staff will email example to the Commission. This is ready to use on any visual material.

6. New Business

a. Selection of Humanitarian Award recipient/finalists

The Commission selected the top three from the four nominees submitted by the Events Committee. The nominee with the highest score will be the recipient dependent on their ability to attend the event on September 21st.

b. Diversity Council update

The Diversity Council will have a ribbon cutting on Tuesday, August 12th @ 11:30am at the Chamber of Commerce offices.

The Diversity Conference is November 16th at the Sioux Falls Convention Center.

7. Disability Awareness Commission Report

No July meeting, no update.

8. Public Comment

Colwill announced that BRN, Inc. is looking for a person with a disability to be the Executive Director of this newly incorporated non-profit organization that helps people with disabilities and employers find each other. They are expecting a \$150,000 grant from the Board of Vocational Rehab to fund the organization.

August 21st is a motorcycle ride for the Washington Warriors – a fundraising event.

9. Adjournment

Aware moved to adjourn, Waara seconded. The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Carol Garry.