

# MINUTES

Thursday, September 9, 2010



**Sioux Falls  
Human Relations  
Commission**

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

**Commissioners:** Present: Abbott, Ahrendt, Aware, Carlson, Guzman, Hariri, Lodu, Luecke, Waara, and DAC Liaison, Farabee.

**Absent:** Rist and Williams

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

**Guests:**

## 1. Call to Order/Welcome Guests

Chairperson Hariri called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm.

## 2. Approval of Minutes

Carlson moved to approve the minutes from August 12, 2010, meeting; Waara 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; Colwill will work on getting this closed out. The respondent went out of business and has not been located.

Contract Investigator Meierhenry still has three open cases assigned to her and Contract Investigator Alexander has five with two more almost ready to forward to her.

Colwill hopes to have EM 10-3-10 to the case panel within the next week to ten days.

## 4. Appointment—September Case Panel

Aware, Hariri, Lodu, Rist, and Waara

## 5. Continuing Business

### a. HRC Events Committee Report – Hariri reported

The Committee is tying up loose ends for the Humanitarian Award event. The Committee met prior to today's meeting and set the timeline for this year's program. The program will be shorter since we will only be reading the three

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**Commission Chair: Vaney Hariri**

**Commission Vice Chair: Clint Waara**

**Commission 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

finalists' nominations. The nominees and nominators will have a reserved section of seats in the Orpheum for the program.

The Committee talked about making the nomination process open throughout the year.

We haven't gotten our own Facebook page yet; still working on it.

## 6. New Business

### a. Human Relations Commission Logo Discussion/Selection

The Commission reviewed the seven logos submitted for their consideration. They are looking for something that ties the Commission to the community and is new/fresh.

Comments ranged from looking too 'churchy' (#1) to looks official and relates to Sioux Falls (#7).

Consensus was to adopt #3 as the HRC's logo.

## 7. Disability Awareness Commission Report – Farabee reported.

The initial elementary school disability awareness training is today at JFK Elementary School. There will be two others, the last one on September 23. The presentations are to fourth graders with a panel of students in middle school or freshmen in high school who have disabilities.

ArtAbility had fifty five entries for the exhibit at the Museum of Visual Materials in June/July. The DAC would like to continue with this exhibit in 2011. The venue is only available in November/December 2011.

Convention and Visitor's Bureau Hotel Survey – Nineteen surveys were returned from the hotels in Sioux Falls. The goal of the surveys was to establish a data base for people needing accommodations can find the appropriate hotel room while visiting town. The Committee will do some spot checks to be sure the surveys are accurate. It is important for the CVB's members to know there is an advantage to offering accessible guest rooms.

The DAC will be planning for next year's projects. Any suggestions from the HRC are welcome. Carlson asked about the accessible gas stations project. This project had been tabled until a future date. Colwill asked if the DAC would be willing to make a twenty – thirty minute video for the Diversity Council.

## 8. Public Comment

Lodu told the Commission about the Sudanese Conference on the Southern Sudan Referendum January 11, 2011. The South wants to separate from the former Sudan. They differ in religion and policies and have experienced unfair treatment of the various ethnic groups.

Colwill told the HRC they will be invited to a meeting with Mayor Huether on ethnic/cultural diversity. It is scheduled for September 22, 2010, at 4pm in City Hall. Letters will be sent.

**9. Adjournment**

Aware moved to adjourn, Abbott seconded. The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Carol Garry.