

MINUTES

Thursday, December 9, 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, Luecke, Rist, Waara, and DAC Liaison, Farabee.

Absent: Abbott, Guzman, 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 the September 9, 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; this will likely move to a public hearing after the first of the year.

Colwill has not been satisfied with the timeliness of the investigations assigned to the contract investigators. One investigator was assigned cases in August and we have yet to receive a report. We need to find an investigator who can keep up, though with no new cases coming in it will be awhile before another backlog is created.

4. Appointment—December Case Panel

Abbott, Guzman, Lodu, Luecke, and Rist

5. Continuing Business – Committee Reports

Prior to the next scheduled meeting on January 13, 2011, the Chairperson would like the committees to meet and be prepared to report at the meeting.

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

- a. **HRC Events Committee Report** – no committee meeting
Assignment for 2011 is to look for more opportunities to create awareness for the HRC, make use of existing community events, and start the Humanitarian Award process sooner.
- b. **HRC Education Committee Report** – no committee meeting
This group did not meet, but the 'cheat sheet' they created was handed out to the HRC members. It is laminated so it can be carried around and still be legible. Staff suggested having business cards with the same information on the 'cheat sheet' on the back.
- b. **HRC Enforcement Committee Report** – no committee meeting
Committee Chair is on Sabbatical; Commissioner Rist will try to arrange for the committee to meet.

6. New Business

a. **Marketing Plans**

Discussions have taken place regarding marketing. We will be putting together a banner with the HRC logo for use at events where the HRC will have a booth or a need to promote our presence at the event. Today staff and HRC Chair taped a spot for use on Ch 16. It covers the basics about who the HRC is, what they do, what a person can do if they feel they have been discriminated against, and how to contact the HRC. We hope to build onto this initial video, likely on a quarterly basis and offer more detail as we go. Ultimately this will create a training video that can be used by employers, landlords, etc. for orientation or training purposes. Also we have been researching billboards, bus signage (inside and out) and posters to distribute to community bulletin boards. Creating a web presence is an affordable marketing tool.

b. **Campaign for replacement members**

Please start looking for new members who have an interest and are willing to work on the Commission's projects and encourage them to apply. We will need at least two, maybe three new members by June.

7. Disability Awareness Commission Report – Farabee reported.

The DAC is working on project selection for 2011; they have been narrowed down to: completing the hotel survey project, another ArtAbility event, two awareness trainings, self service gas station sticker for people with disabilities and a library project. They will be assigning committee members and selecting committee chairs.

8. Public Comment

Aware announced the formation of a new ethnic service group. It will be called 'All Ethnic Community Center, Sioux Falls and S D. The Center will speak for those who don't have a voice and will include all ethnic groups. It is a grass roots organization. They have put together Articles of Incorporation they will submit to become a 501(c) 3.

This center has the support of the ethnic community. They will not be pursuing funding yet; the ethnic community will provide support like renting office space.

Colwill reported that effective January 21, 2011, he will be retiring. It is due to health reasons. He will continue to support the work of the Commission.

9. Adjournment

Lodu moved to adjourn, Waara seconded. The meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Carol Garry.