

# MINUTES

Thursday, May 9, 2013



**Sioux Falls  
Human Relations  
Commission**

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

## Commissioners:

Present: Ahrendt, Brennan, Carlson, Guzman, Hariri, Reichelt, and Simon. DAC liaison – Julie Briggs

Absent: Aware, Haase, Knobloch, and Salihagic

## Staff:

Colleen Moran, Human Relations Manager and Carol Garry, Human Relations Assistant

## Guests:

### 1. Call to Order/Welcome Guests

Chairperson Hariri called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. No guests were present.

### 2. Approval of Minutes

**Carlson moved to approve the December 13, 2012, meeting minutes, Ahrendt provided the second.** The minutes were unanimously approved.

### 3. Status of Cases Report

The oldest case listed will be ready for the case panel soon. The next oldest is currently in the conciliation stage. The conciliation meeting is set for May 15, 2013. The next oldest involves another charge filed by the same complainant against the same respondent and the parties have been working to resolve. Three others on the list will be going to the May Case Panel; should be mailed out tomorrow.

Since the beginning of 2013, three cases have been mediated and two more are scheduled.

### 4. Appointment—May Case Panel –

Haase, Brennan, Reichelt, Salihagic and Simon

Guzman will read for Salihagic until he gets back from training at the end of May.

### 5. Continuing Business

a. Humanitarian Award Update –

This year the Orpheum, is requiring that we use their caterer - Ovation. Looking over their menu prices, Staff felt we should explore other possibilities. Staff visited the Prairie Center on the Avera campus. We can use the venue without charge, but would also be required to use their caterer. Staff has requested bids for venue + catering from the Pavilion, Holiday Inn City Centre, Chef Dominique, as well as the Orpheum and the Prairie Center.

The date for the event this year is Thursday, August 29, 2013.

6. **New Business –**

**a. Facebook –**

The HRC was able to secure a Facebook page. There are only a few city departments that have their own page. Please be sure to 'like' us on Facebook; this will keep up our numbers and allow for it to continue.

We will be using Facebook to share information on the Humanitarian Awards.

**b. Proposed new board members for Council approval**

This had been planned for the May 7<sup>th</sup> Council meeting, but due to a number of things this did not happen. Staff will send out information as soon as we hear something.

The 'Meet & Greet' was well attended. This provided the prospective board members an opportunity to learn more about the three Human Relations-connected boards and visit with current members.

Moran thanked those who recruited/recommended candidates and those who attended the 'Meet & Greet' meeting.

**c. Presentation of Service Awards**

Service Awards were presented to Ahrendt, Carlson, Hariri, and Guzman. Knobloch and Aware were not in attendance, but have earned service awards.

**d. Election of Officers**

**Simon moved to table the election of officers until the next meeting when there will be a full board. Carlson seconded.** The motion passed by unanimous vote.

7. **Disability Awareness Commission Report**

The next ARTAbility exhibit will be March/April 2014 at the Museum of Visual Materials.

Awareness trainings on disability etiquette have been provided to volunteers at Celebrate Church who will be helping with their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual ball for people with disabilities. Future presentations will be for the Dept. of Labor and a Rotary Club.

NDEAM – National Disability Employment Awareness Month- October 3, 2014, event planned at Sanford Research Center. It will be a breakfast presentation with information on reasonable accommodations and mental health.

Staff is working on Citizens on Parking Patrol (COPP)

April 3, 2014 – Diversity Fair at SE Tech - Simon had a booth on the Jewish Faith, Hariri manned the HRC table and Briggs covered the shared BRN & DAC booth. Moran was also present in the morning. There was a good turnout, gave away a lot of pens and materials. Participants had 'passports' they got stamped by visiting the various booths. Many asked questions and showed an interest.

#### 8. Public Comment –

Moran shared that Abdul Sidow from the Somali-Bantu community stopped in to ask for the HRC's assistance with their community garden project. The Hy-Vee on East 10<sup>th</sup> Street has agreed to let them use some land behind the store to set up some garden spaces. They will be installing ten raised bed gardens. If you want to help or have some gardening tools to donate, let Moran know.

November 13, 2014, is the date for this year's Diversity Conference and Moran is looking for speakers. If you know of anyone who would be a good, willing speaker, please give Moran a call.

#### 9. Adjournment

Having no further business Chairperson Hariri adjourned the meeting at 12:40 p.m.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Carol Garry.*