

## **Duluth Human Rights Commission (HRC)**

Regular Meeting - minutes

Wednesday, February 9, 2022 @ 5:00pm

City Hall via WebEx

1. Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions
  - a. Meeting called to order at 5:06pm
  - b. Commissioners present: Commissioner Tyra Jaramillo, Commissioner Marsha Lue, Commissioner Sarah Lyons, Commissioner Carl Huber
  - c. Commissioners absent: Commissioner Bettina Keppers (excused), Commissioner van den Bosse (excused)
  - d. Guests: Human Rights Officer (HRO) Carl Crawford, Human Rights Assistant (HRA) Laura Laaksonen
2. Consent of Meeting Minutes - January 12, 2022
  - a. Motioned to approve by Commissioner Jaramillo; seconded by Commissioner Huber; approved unanimously by the Commissioners
3. Consent of Today's Agenda
  - a. Motioned to approve by Commissioner Huber; seconded by Commissioner Lyons; approved unanimously by the Commissioners
4. Public Comments
  - a. Written public comments submitted prior to meeting
    - i. None
  - b. Live public comments via WebEx
    - i. Betty Greene: Has really appreciated the educational sessions that the Commission has hosted, and appreciates them also being posted online
    - ii. Asked when the Redlining presentation is
      1. Commissioner Lue answered that it is set for March 2022
5. Executive Team Update
  - a. No updates at this time
6. Subcommittee Report
  - a. Findings Committee
    - i. Update on the continuing case involving a minor who was suspended from her high school. Carl Crawford and Carl Huber met with the superintendent and principal to safety plan for the student coming back to school. However, the parents have decided to keep the student out of in-person school for the rest of the year.
    - ii. An international student of African heritage at a local college has filed a complaint that she is being treated unfairly by management at an apartment housing community. She has not been included in student groups she has requested to be a part of, and has been singled out multiple times. The student has decided to move out of the building, but Carl Crawford will still be speaking to the building's management.
    - iii. A woman with disabilities was stopped and arrested by the Duluth Police Department, and claims that she was discriminated against and beaten

- by the officers. Carl Crawford did watch the video, and did not see evidence of mistreatment, but will continue to work with the family
    - iv. A man who is a part of a statewide program to provide employment to individuals who have been impacted by addiction has filed a complaint of discrimination and unfair treatment by an employee of that program.
  - b. Communications Committee
    - i. The Commission FaceBook page will be discontinued, and all marketing will be going through the City of Duluth page
      - 1. Commissioner Lyons inquired who made that decision, and Commissioner Lue answered that this was the city's decision to streamline
  - c. Research Committee
    - i. No updates at this time
  - d. Events Committee
    - i. No updates at this time
7. Racial Bias Audit Update
  - a. The team leads have reached out to the Charleston and Albany police departments. These departments have already conducted a racial bias audit. The team leads are reaching out to ask them what they had learned from that process.
  - b. Team leads have also reached out to the American Civil Liberties Union for guidance and feedback
  - c. Once guidance or feedback is received, edits will be made and sent to Chief Tuskan
8. Human Rights Officer Report
  - a. February is Black History Month. Unfortunately, Amir Locke's life was lost in the Twin Cities. This was the result of a no-knock warrant.
    - i. Commissioner Jaramillo inquired if there has been a statement made from the Commission regarding what has happened
      - 1. Commissioner Lue indicated that there has not been a statement made yet, but we are still able to make these statements through the City of Duluth FaceBook page
  - b. Has been working on the Duluth housing situation, and gave an update
  - c. Participated in two MLK events
  - d. Has been working with a local group to help fund local BIPOC business. This is an issue of equity in the community. What does it mean to have wealth and pass that wealth on?
9. Request for Agenda Items for Next Meeting
  - a. None
10. Upcoming Events
  - a. The Redlining presentation will be held Tuesday, March 15, at 6:30pm, over WebEx
  - b. On February 16 there is a three hour workshop called "Storytelling as a Reflective Practice in Anti Racism Work". Being held as a pre-summit to the

Equity Summit on March 2 through the University of Minnesota Duluth, but is open to the public.

i. This can host up to 25 people

11. Adjournment

a. Meeting adjourned at 5:32pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:  
Tyra Jaramillo, Secretary