

Duluth Human Rights Commission (HRC)
Regular Meeting - minutes
Wednesday, September 12, 2022 @ 5:30pm
City Hall Room 430

1. Call to Order
 - a. Meeting called to order at 5:33pm
 - b. Commissioners present: Commissioners Lue, van den Bosse, Tyacke, Huber, Lyons, Jaramillo-Kraemer, Wittenberg, & Singer
 - c. Commissioners absent: Commissioner Keppers
 - d. Guests: Human Rights Officer (HRO) Carl Crawford
2. Consent of Minutes - September 14, 2022
 - a. Motioned to approve by Commissioner Singer; seconded by Commissioner Lyons, unanimously approved with one abstention
3. Public Comments and Written Comments
 - a. Written public comments submitted prior to meeting
 - i. None
 - b. Live public comments
 - i. None
4. Executive Team Report
 - a. The QR code has been emailed out, and will be used at the St. Louis County Health and Human Services Conference tomorrow (Chester Creek room from 3-4:30)
 - i. Other commissioners are allowed to come to this session, but are not able to participate in other parts of the conference without paying for admittance
 - ii. Statement was made for National Coming Out Day
 - iii. The Indigenous People's Day post was created by the City of Duluth Indigenous Commission
 1. Possibly next year, we should send an acknowledgement to that commission for posting about it and putting on the event that occurred - or we can draft that acknowledgement for this year (Sarah will draft something to send to Marsha)
5. Findings Committee Report
 - a. Five cases were discussed at this month's meeting
 - i. Two cases were involving a local rental property management company
 1. One case involved a man whose housing is paid for via Center City Housing has been told that he has late fees and will be evicted. The late fees are hard to access and not comprehensible.
 2. The second case involved a man who uses money orders to pay his rent, and has seen the money being taken out of his account but the company says they have not received payments. There was a court date set, but he missed it due to being in addiction treatment.
 - ii. One case involved being fired from a place of employment due to bringing his support dog to work. Turns out this place of employment is in Lake County, but the man lives in Duluth.

- iii. Two cases were continuations from previous months:
 - 1. One case involved an incident at a local high school. The girl in this case has hired a private attorney who is now asking for our findings.
 - 2. The second case involved a woman with a disability who feels she was forced to sign over her parental rights to her father. Her father is now not letting her see her son, although he previously said that he would. The woman is currently petitioning to get visitation rights.
- 6. Research Committee Report
 - a. Has been working closely with the Communications Committee
- 7. Communications Committee Report
 - a. Worked with the NQT2SLGBIA Committee to create a National Coming Out Day post, which was posted yesterday
 - b. Is currently working on a statement for National Hunger and Homelessness Week (November 12-20)
- 8. Events Committee Report
 - a. Carl Huber and Sarah Lyons went to the monthly EEAC meeting to collaborate more with the school district on equity and diversity
 - i. Statistics were presented at this meeting regarding 1 in 5 black students in isd705 received a citation from a law enforcement officer, and 1 in 140 white students
 - ii. This could lead to good conversations regarding restorative justice
 - iii. What do we do now? Ideas:
 - 1. Continue showing up to these meetings to build connections with the school personnel who the students talk to
 - 2. Ask again for the report regarding out-of-school suspensions in the district , and contact the state office regarding how to reinstate this conversation after asking the superintendent again
 - 3. Have a community meeting regarding the topic
 - 4. Send an invite to have the report officially shared with the commission, possibly inviting a school board member
 - a. We could schedule this in place of one of our regular meetings, with the community invited, with a follow up conversation scheduled for a portion of the next month's meeting
 - 5. The events committee will take this on, and find someone from ISD 709 to be able to present at a listening session - the events committee will schedule a meeting to discuss
- 9. HRC Work Plan
 - a. Commissioner Wittenberg requested to include the Filipino American History month for October
 - i. The Research Committee will take this and find content for a post
 - b. Commissioner Lyons requested to include the Unity in Our Community to be added to the community events that the Human Rights Commission will attend
 - c. Changed "latinx" to "latine" in the Work Plan language

- d. Motion to approve with the amended changes from Commissioner Huber, seconded by Commissioner Tyacke, unanimously approved
10. Racial Bias Audit Update
- a. The team is meeting with the auditors in a couple of weeks
11. Human Rights Officer Report
- a. It is a wish from the city and the community to open the warming center at the Lincoln Park Community Center, but this will not happen if there are not enough employees
 - i. Please reach out to people who you believe would want to work for the warming center
 - b. Carl Crawford served as a moderator for the Kumbaya performance at Denfeld High School in September, and they will come back and do the play again next year
 - c. Has been working to put things in place to assist the needs and concerns of new immigrants to our area
 - d. Hosted a group of CSS students to discuss the history behind the Clayton-Jackson-McGhie Memorial
 - e. Presented to 15 law enforcement applicants at a community college in Alexandria
 - i. It is important that our law enforcement officers know that we are welcoming them in, so that we can help them connect with their communities
 - f. We have run into many situations with predatory landlords, and people are being pushed out of their housing with no resources
 - i. We are expecting more numbers of people being displaced. Carl has been working with One Roof and Legal Aid regarding this issue
12. Announcements and Upcoming Events
- a. The commission will be presenting at the St. Louis County Health and Human Services Conference tomorrow at the DECC
 - b. Lake Superior College is doing "Turkey Baskets" for students
13. Additional Public Comments and Commissioner Comments
- a. Public comment: the school board heard the SRO contract today, and will vote at the next board meeting. The Duluth City Council has to approve the contract as well, and has requested that the contract be one year at a time
 - i. School board meeting: next Tuesday (10/18), 6:20 at Duluth East High School
14. Request for Agenda Items for Next Meeting
- a. Can be emailed to Laura for the next meeting
15. Adjourn
- a. Meeting adjourned at 7:03pm
 - b. Next meeting is November 9, 2022

Minutes respectfully submitted by:
Tyra Jaramillo-Kraemer, Secretary