

<u>A</u> Benjamin Briggs	<u>E</u> Monica Roth Day	<u>P</u> Jane Maddy	<u>A</u> John Beyer-Ex-Officio	<u>Cruz Mendoza</u>
<u>P</u> Maria Cuzzo	<u>A</u> John Heiner	<u>A</u> Myrna Raisanen	<u>P</u> Bob Grytdahl - Staff	<u>Naomi (Hillsider)</u>
<u>P</u> Jon Dacken	<u>A</u> Tamara Jones	<u>P</u> Terry Teich		
<u>A</u> Maria Danz	<u>A</u> Dan Kitzberger	<u>P</u> Toni Thorstad		

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
Review minutes from 07/09/08	No corrections or additions noted by those present.	<i>Minutes filed.</i> Post minutes on Web.	Julie Mockler
Correspondence	Received: A. St. Louis County Health & Human Services Conference brochure B. Duluth American Indian Commission C. Minnesota Department of Human Rights - Strategic Plan grant D.		
Reports	A. <u>Director's Report</u> – Meeting was held with Chief Administrative Officer, Director of Community Development, Budget office, City Attorney and Human Rights Officer. Was asked to submit a budget for 2009-2010. Office secretary is going to part-time in our budget. Not sure how 2010 will shake out at we will only get \$10,000 from HUD and \$2,400 for each case that is completed in a certain time line. Applying for CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) grant to fund the Human Rights Investigator position. Deadline for that grant is August 19. Will be looking for other grants in the future. Because funds come from HUD and there is no general fund money provided by the City, the office will focus totally on Fair Housing complaints. Officer is currently collaborating with some other groups to do some outreach meetings in the fall. All other types of complaints of discrimination (i.e. business, credit, employment, public services and public accommodations) will be referred to the Minnesota Department of Human Rights. Some help with that process will be offered by the office in the referral process. Officer may also be dealing with some Fair Housing issues for victims of domestic abuse through the		

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Reports, cont.	through the City Attorney's office. Will probably still need Findings Committees for the Fair Housing cases. Office now falls under the City Attorney's office. Need to start catching up on investigations.		
Re-building our Commission	<p>A. Purpose of our Commission and B. How are we going to fulfill it?</p> <p>Most felt that the Mission Statement was still valid and did not see the need for any changes in it. Fulfilling the Mission may be the hard part. We have not done enough in the way of education. Attendance has been poor and hampers what we have been able to accomplish. Concern expressed that it is too bad that the community doesn't take seriously treating people with dignity and respect.</p> <p>Discussed that we can go out and do all the educating we want but it will be for naught if we don't have City backing. Can't see the Mayor supporting us. No budget - no power.</p> <p>Opinion expressed that the Commission could experience a renewal. However, there are some choices that have to be made.</p> <p>1) City is not in a position to reallocate resources toward our work. We must look for alternative sources of power. We need to build genuine and authentic community relationships. At this point, the Commission is not credible. We need to spend time rebuilding. Need to reach out to the community. Need to change the attitudes about our services.</p> <p>2) Human Capital – We should have 15 active members. Many do not come and the new appointees have not shown up at all. We need to actively recruit for members who would be active and find out why those absent members not coming.</p> <p>3) Resources – We don't have any. We can do a lot on little money.</p> <p>We have done a lot of work on setting priorities in the not so</p>		

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<p>Re-building our Commission, cont.</p>	<p>distant past. Those are still good and feasible. We need to get clarification on our relationship with the Office. Not sure if we should be an educational tool for the Office when their existence is so shaky.</p> <p>Suggestion made that we send representatives to the State meeting in October to find out and connect with what is going on in the rest of the state. Question was raised about what really is brought back when we attend these meetings. Answer: strategies and ideas on things we could do here. What is the relationship between this Commission and the Mayor? Although we are official, we are essentially ignored.</p> <p>Continued to discuss that things don't get done because people don't show up. Maybe we need to re-think how we are made up. Should we become a task force? Is it time to disband? We have no money with little office help. Perhaps a clean end would be in order. Suggestion was made by our visitor that we query other groups and see how to rejuvenate, etc. Although this suggestion is good, people seem to rally around the cause and then not appear again. Concern also expressed that we are too far past talking to members of the community about our problems. Due to lack of a quorum, we can make these decisions at this meeting.</p> <p>September meeting should have one noticed agenda item - that being the future of this Commission. Suggestion made that we continue on with setting a strategic planning meeting since our grant from the State was approved. Potential facilitator for that might be Pat Miller. Need her to come in and help us with the structure of our discussion. She will have a fresh outlook that we can gain something from. Perhaps invite former and current Commission members. Conclusion is that September will be Strategic Planning meet-ing planning session.</p>	<p>September meeting agenda will be Strategic Planning meeting planning meeting.</p> <p>Contact Pat Miller and invite to next meeting.</p>	<p>Jane Maddy / Julie Mockler</p> <p>Jane Maddy</p>

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Upcoming resignations	Jane Maddy stated that she will be resigning in September due to continuing health problems. Toni Thorstad may be resigning as well. New leadership will have to emerge if we are going to continue.		
Next meeting: Wednesday, September 10, 2008 @ 6:00 p.m.			