

# Duluth Human Rights Commission

Regular Session Meeting Agenda

**June 12, 2019**

**5:30**

**City Hall Room 116**

- I. Call to Order
  - Chair Kisob called the meeting to order at 5:33PM
- II. Roll call
  - Commissioners Present: Sherry Williams, Sandra van den Bosse, Princess Kisob, Ashley Neenan, and Carl Huber
  - Commissioners Absent: Ashely Grimm (excused) and Charles Obije (unexcused)
  - Others present: Human Rights Officer Carl Crawford, Ms. Thomson Edmonds, and Ms. K. Spencer
- III. Public Comments
  - Ms. Thomson Edmonds inquired about the complaint filed regarding burn-barrel policy on the community space outside the MN Power building in downtown Duluth for homeless coalition events. MN Power is leading this conversation with City Council at their meeting on June 24, 2019.
- IV. Consent agenda
  - Tabled until next meeting as we did not have last month's minutes
- V. Chair Report
  - Chair Kisob had nothing to report
  - Commissioner van den Bosse had the following:
    - Followed-up with Duluth Police Department regarding the recent white nationalist organization that posted hate posters in locations in west

Duluth. The posters were removed and no incidents of razor blades having been attached to the posters was reported. In review of surveillance video camera footage, the quality of the video was too poor to identify any possible suspects. DPD has identified the white nationalist group that displayed these posters.

- The HRC banner was agreed on.

#### VI. Vice Chair Report

- Not present - no report

#### VII. Committee reports

- Findings
  - Charles O. was elected chair at last meeting. Couple cases discussed but nothing to report to the Commission at this time
- Education
  - Did not meet. Commissioner Huber attended the April EEAC meeting - further discussion of the Commission's role on the EEAC has been suggested at our next meeting.
- CEDAW
  - No report
- HR Rubric
  - The committee discussed ways to better support the LGBT community through community education. The group identified issues that the City of Duluth was not aware of and forwarded this information on to the City. Planning an event at the new Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, 2spirit + Arrowhead Resource and Community Center - or

LARCC, for short, pronounced like "lark" - a partnership of the LGBT Elder Network, Northland Prism Community, Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota's Together for Youth and Gloria Dei Welcoming Ministries. Also, planning a conversation on bullying to take place at the downtown library in the green or yellow room.

- Homeless Person's Bill of Rights
  - No activity this month
- On-Boarding
  - Committee work is on hold until the two or three new commissioners are appointed by the Mayor.

#### VIII. Protective Gear update

- Commissioner van den Bosse reported that the committee has made it through a review of the policy and a draft has been presented. There were some contentious issues and the CRB was meeting Monday, June 17 to determine purpose of community meetings as a way to seek input or to present the findings. Human Rights Officer Crawford recognized Commissioner van den Bosse for her leadership in moving the protective gear committee forward and guiding the development of the policy. There will also be a FAQ drafted to go along with the release of the protective gear policy. This policy was the joint effort of several community organizations including the Duluth Police Department, CRB, NAACP, 3 City Councilors, SURJ. What the final policy looks like came from the work of these community groups.

#### IX. Community Correspondence

- Clayton Jackson McGhie Memorial - 99th anniversary of the Duluth lynchings - Friday, June 14 at noon
- Clayton Jackson McGhie Memorial - Friday, June 14 at 5:30PM Park Hill Cemetery - graveside memorial service
- Juneteenth - Saturday, June 15 Central Hillside Community Center, Noon to 5PM
- Juneteenth - Sunday, June 16, Superior, WI
- Gay Pride Events
  - Thursday, August 29, Mayor's reception at the Depot
  - Friday, August 30, Art Offering and (possible) Film Festival, 11AM to 7 PM - Human Rights Officer Crawford to speak this event
  - Sunday, September 1, PRIDE Parade at noon in Superior, WI - HRC will walk in the parade

X. Human Rights Officer Report - given by Carl Crawford

- Spoke at the "Housing for All" conference at the Copper Top Church
- The Minnesota legislation did not pass the African American Preservation act. Working with local court system in review of treatment of people of color maintaining parental rights in child custody cases and fairness to minority populations.
- Invited to speak at the Jr. and Sr. high school leadership conference, June 13 and 14 at the College of St. Scholastica
- ISD709 - Mr. Lake held a community partners meeting to discuss the disparity in graduation and suspension rates in our high schools. The HRC education committee requested a copy of the minutes from this meeting when available.

XI. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 6:13PM

Respectfully submitted by Commissioner Huber, Secretary