

MINUTES
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
April 25, 2019

Call to Order: This meeting of the Ames Human Relations Commission was called to order by Commissioner Joel Hochstein at 5:32 p.m. in Conference Room 235 of City Hall. Commissioners Jill Crosser, Liming Pals, and Madesh Samanu were present. Wayne Clinton was not present. Staff member Brian Phillips was also present.

Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 28, 2019:

Moved by Madesh, seconded by Jill, to approve the minutes. Vote on motion: 4-0. Motion Approved.

Discussion of City Council's Direction to Commission: Joel asked if there were comments from Tuesday's meeting. Madesh brought up the comments regarding African-American student achievement. Joel agreed to contact Tim Gartin and learn more about whether it was a report related to primary school or college students.

Liming asked about whether the commission should be working with the NAACP or the school district. Joel noted the Commission talked about potential approaches at the last meeting, but could make a more detailed proposal for the group to review. Perhaps the plan could be established at a retreat, where there is more time.

Jill asked about the timeline. Joel noted the Council did not provide one, but trying to get a plan together for the fall would be a good goal. For the May meeting, Joel suggested he would provide a listing of the articles he had researched. He reviewed the article topics briefly, and noted he would also look for articles related to disability.

Joel noted the Commission could review ability, age, ethnicity, age, gender, and sexual orientation issues, and identify groups that are in those areas to consult with. The Commission will be looking for articles and community groups in those areas, which can be funneled to Joel. The Commission agreed that groups that are statewide could be included, so long as the impact people in Ames.

AHRC Retreat: The Commissioners discussed when a retreat might be held. The purpose would be to get to know each other, and to develop an action plan. Joel suggested that he could send out a Doodle poll to find an acceptable date, if the commissioners could identify a timeframe. Jill suggested a full day during the week. Joel will look for dates in late May (27th and later) and early June.

Home for Everyone Award Application Changes: Brian noted the request the Commission made at the prior meeting to adjust the nomination form. Jill suggested adding "race, age,

gender, etc.” to the first bullet. Joel suggested adding ethnicity, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity.

Joel requested adding this to the May agenda with an update.

Planning 2019 Symposium on Building Inclusive Organizations: Joel noted that the symposium is scheduled for Tuesday, October 29th. It is planned for a half day. Joel had provided the planning group with the data from the latest report to the City Council. The group will be putting together sessions that can address the areas where complaints are occurring. The organizers are continuing to look for sponsors. Joel will send out planning committee meeting dates to the Commissioners, who are invited to participate if they are interested.

Commissioner Announcements: Madesh asked Joel if he knew when the campus climate survey results were coming out. Joel indicated he would look into it.

Next Meeting: May 23, 2019 @ 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment: Madesh moved adjournment at 6:20 p.m.