

**Minutes**  
**CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY COMMISSION**  
**Conference Room 235**  
**City Hall, 515 Clark Avenue**  
**Monday, March 25, 2018**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by Chair Karin Chitty. Members present were Evelyn Beavers, Pete Englin, Tom Lindsley, Sandeep Stanley, and Ian Steenhoek. Eric Abrams and Warren Madden were not present. Staff liaisons Tasheik Kerr and Brian Phillips were also present.

Karin led a round of introductions for the attendees.

**Approval of Minutes:**

It was moved by Pete, seconded by Ian, to approve the minutes of October 22, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Forum:**

There was no one present for Public Forum

**Tenant/Landlord Relations:**

Karin introduced this new topic for the Commission to discuss. She asked if the members had thoughts or feedback related to the topic. Ian mentioned that students have a lot of issues with finding feedback about landlords and rentals online. He said there were efforts on Student Government to create a rating site for rentals. He thought that might be a valuable direction.

Pete described the history of the Rent Smart Ames site. Ian explained that a lack of information about the smaller landlords is challenging. Tom asked if it would be more effective to do a survey of students to gather information about their living situations compared with having a site where students could enter their information. Sandeep and Ian stated they felt a resource to find housing ratings would be more valuable than a resource to find housing listings.

Pete suggested a conversation with Student Legal Services may be helpful to understand student renting challenges and issues on both sides. Sandeep suggested a seminar or FAQ from Student Legal Services might be helpful. Ian suggested the information on the City's website about tenant and landlord responsibilities could be updated and put into a joint ratings/informational website. Pete asked whether meeting between Ames Police and landlords were continuing, like the one he attended last summer.

**Commissioner Comments:**

Sandeep mentioned that he is working on a community-wide celebration called I Love Ames. It would involve festival retail events at the Mall, Campustown, and Downtown, connected by CyRide shuttles. This would be geared towards freshman and sophomore students to get them familiarized with Ames.

**Adjourn:**

Pete moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.