

Meeting Minutes

Human Rights Commission

Thursday, February 23, 2023

5:30 p.m.

City Council Chambers Ankeny Kirkendall Public Library

1250 SW District Dr, Ankeny, Iowa

Aubrey Alvarez

Dustin Graber

Lindsay Norland

Tim Olson

Laura Parkinson

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Olson called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

Olson, Norland, Graber, and Alvarez present. Parkinson absent. Johnson and Schrock, staff liaisons present. Matt Hauge, director of communications & community outreach for Polk County Housing Trust was in attendance.

3. WELCOME NEW HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONER – DUSTIN GRABER

Olson introduced Dustin Graber to the Human Rights Commission as it's newest appointed member. Graber provided an introduction of himself to the board.

4. MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR February 23, 2023

Graber motioned to approve the agenda as presented, Alvarez seconded. Ayes: 4, motion carried.

5. NOMINATE AND APPROVE CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Norland motioned to nominate Tim Olson as chair of the Human Rights Commission, Alvarez seconded. Ayes: 4, motion carried.

Norland motioned to nominate Aubrey Alvarez as vice chair of the Human Rights Commission, Graber seconded. Ayes: 4, motion carried.

6. MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM November 17, 2022

Graber motioned to approve the minutes from the November 17, 2022 meeting. Alvarez seconded. Ayes: 4, motion carried.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Working subcommittee discussion and reports

No official action taken on this item. Alvarez asked the commission if she could introduce Matt Hauge from the Polk County Housing Trust and for him to give a brief presentation on Fair Housing Month in April. The group agreed and ask Hauge to give a presentation. Hauge spoke about a draft

Fair Housing month proclamation that the Polk County Housing Trust has sent to metro human rights commissions to consider adopting. Hauge talked about the training opportunities that the Polk County Housing Trust conducts such as a fair housing program that is going to be held on April 11, 2023. Norland mentioned that the 2023 MLK Day of Service was well attended. Alvarez mentioned that the Ankeny Chamber is working on potentially setting up a black entrepreneur summit sometime this year.

b. Long term calendar for HRC activities and events

The commission talked about the monthly emphasis list and how a connection can be made between the City and each of those emphases. Alvarez asked that "Fair Housing Month" be added as an April monthly emphasis. Request to work with the Ankeny Chamber of Commerce to incorporate public educational resources that are available regarding fair housing requirements was discussed.

c. Sponsorship of events and policy discussion

No official action taken on this item. Schrock discussed with the group the City Sponsorship Policy that was approved at the November 7, 2022 City Council meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discussion – Website biographies for commissioners

Johnson shared with the commission that the City website has been updated along which included subtitle changes to the HRC webpage. The commission talked about the HRC webpage and will provide updated commissioner biographies to Johnson.

b. Discussion – Preliminary 2023 Work Plan

Johnson and Schrock discussed with the commission a preliminary 2023 work plan that would be discussed more in-depth at the March 23, 2023 HRC meeting.

9. STAFF REPORT

Johnson reviewed the February 2023 staff memo with the HRC. Schrock put forward a suggestion for the commission to discontinue HRC sub-committees as commission business/discussion of ideas should be conducted in a public setting. Graber motioned to discontinue the advocacy, collaboration, and education sub-committees. Norland seconded. Ayes: 4, motion carried.

10. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 6:37 PM.