

MINUTES
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
June 28, 2018

Call to Order – This regular meeting of the Ames Human Relations Commission was called to order by Commissioner Joel Hochstein at 5:37 p.m. in Conference Room 235 of City Hall. Commissioners Wayne Clinton and Liming Pals, were present. Anneke Mundel and Heidi Thompson were not present. Staff member Brian Phillips was also present.

Public Forum – No one was present for Public Forum.

Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 24, 2018 – It was moved by Wayne, seconded by Liming to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2018 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Report of Complaints or Inquiries from the Public – Brian reported that he had been informed secondhand of an incident at a local drive-through. He did not receive a formal complaint and it did not appear to be an incident that was illegal discrimination, but bias from another patron. He indicated he would pass along additional information if the person who experienced this came forward.

Inclusive Ames Programming Partnership – There was nothing to report.

Symposium Development with Chamber and ISU – Joel mentioned he was out of town for the last meeting, but Joe Gerstandt was being considered for the keynote speaker slot. Joe would speak about bias. Planning is continuing.

Public Service Announcements – Joel announced that Anneke has asked him to work with Derek from Channel 12 to identify times where Commission members would be able to meet to do their portion of the programs. Joel noted that July 9th could potentially be an option, but additional options may be identified.

Program of Quarterly Educational Seminars – Joel mentioned Heidi had sent some questions regarding the “Race: The Power of Illusion” discussion, and the presented felt those could be addressed during the session.

IRIS Peace Walk – Joel mentioned that IRIS has requested \$500 in Commission funding for this event for each of the past several years. The Commission sets up a table at the event to speak with people. The question was whether this was valuable for the Commission or should the Commission ask for more information or changes to the arrangement to make it more valuable. Joel offered to talk with the director prior to the July meeting and ask for more details so a more informed discussion could be had at the July meeting.

Planning for Joint City Council Meeting – Joel expressed interest in having this topic on the July meeting agenda. Joel outlined ideas he had developed regarding future organization of the

Commission. The Commission would work on advocacy, equity, and organizing a non-profit council of stakeholders with aligned missions.

Wayne suggested the idea sounds interesting, but would need further study. Liming noted that Chapter 14 also mentions undertaking projects to educate the community. The Commission discussed its partnership with other organizations that are putting on program. Joel indicated he had thought about an application process to ensure the proposed program partnerships meet the Commission's goals and standards.

Commission Budget and Materials – Joel sent a draft budget document this morning. It was moved by Wayne, seconded by Liming, to take the Fair Housing Month expenses out of the Local Option funds for the Commission and increasing that budgeted amount to \$500. Motion carried unanimously. It was moved by Wayne, seconded by Liming, to approve the FY 18/19 budget as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

The Commission reviewed the materials it had on hand and chose to throw out outdated and junk items. The Commission identified materials that it could use at future events. Brian agreed to have a budget/materials inventory item on each future June agenda.

Commissioner Comments – There were no Commissioner Comments.

Next Meeting: July 26, 2018

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.