

Minutes

AMES HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Meeting held via Zoom
Thursday, March 18, 2021

Call to Order: The meet was called to order at 5:33pm by Chair Jill Crosser.

Members Present: Jill Crosser, Wayne Clinton, Madesh Samanu

Member(s) Absent: Jahmai Fisher, Leslie Ginder

Staff Liaison: Deb Schildroth

Approval of Minutes: Wayne Clinton moved approval of the February 25th, 2021 minutes. Samanu seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Forum: There was no one present for public forum.

Selection of a Home for Everyone Award Recipient: Three nominations were received for a Home for Everyone Award. Two submissions were received before the deadline and one submission was received after the deadline.

Commission members discussed their thoughts on accepting the late submission. All members present spoke in agreement that the third submission should be accepted.

Moved by Clinton, seconded by Chair Crosser to accept the late submission for consideration. Motion carried unanimously.

Commission members reviewed the submissions.

- Tara Brown of Bridge Home
- Wings of Refuge
- Joy Fopma of Wings of Refuge

Through discussion, the Commission determined that they were open to following suit of previous years by awarding both an individual and an organization. Samanu stated favor for awarding Tara Brown to be recognized as an individual and awarding Wings of Refuge to be recognized as an organization.

Clinton stated agreement to giving the award in this manner as the two organizations are going above and beyond to help the Ames community while providing very different services.

Chair Crosser stated agreement as well with the thought that Fopma would still feel honored with the organization awarded.

Moved by Samanu, seconded by Clinton, to award Tara Brown as an individual and Wings of Refuge as an organization a Home for Everyone Award. Motion carried unanimously.

The award will be presented at an April City Council meeting as April is Fair Housing month. The Housing Coordinator at the City of Ames, Vanessa Latimer-Baker, will make a proclamation. Following the proclamation, a Home for Everyone Award will be presented. Assistant City Manager Schildroth will keep the Commission up to date on which meeting this will take place and encouraged the Commission to consider how to deliver the award since the meeting will be virtual.

Annual Report Review: Chair Crosser gave a rundown of the changes that were made to the Annual Report based on the comments from the last Commission meeting and opened the floor to the Commission to give their thoughts or move approval.

Commission members in attendance acknowledged the changes made and stated their opinion on moving approval.

Assistant City Manager Schildroth cautioned approval, stating that all Commission members should review the report and have say on the approval with Clinton stating agreement.

Action tabled.

Postings and Social Media Content: Updates on the social media posts voted on at the January 28th meeting were provided.

Idea	Month	Follow-up	Update
Partnership post with the Ames Community School District on their BLM Curriculum	February	Chair Jill Crosser	No statement was received.
Photo of Video celebrating Women's History Month	March 1 st – March 31 st	Chair Jill Crosser	Women's Familiar Names Around Ames will be posted later this week.
Video celebrating Deaf History Month	March 15 th – April 15 th	Leslie Ginder	Assistant City Manager Schildroth introduced Ginder to the City of Ames Media Production Coordinator to begin production of an informational video.
Ames History Museum Downtown mural unveiling	March	Co-Chair Wayne Clinton	The ribbon cutting ceremony will take place Monday, March 29 th at noon at the Ames History Museum. Commission members are encouraged to be there to support the event and for photos.

Commissioner Announcements: None.

Next Meeting: April 15th, 2021 at 5:30 pm.

Adjournment: Moved by Clinton to adjourn the meeting at 6:13pm.