



HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

MINUTES

September 1, 2016, 2016

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

THIRD FLOOR

CSAC – WEST CONFERENCE ROOM

Members present by roll call: Susan Timmons, Lin Jennewein, Andy Ainslie, and Merton B. Tice, Jr., and Mel Siyo

Absent: Jacqueline Gerry and Jamie Al-Haj

Also present: City Council Member Liaison Lisa Modrick, Assistant City Attorney's Allison Creelman and Jess Rogers, and Legal Administrative Secretary, Jamie Anderson.

Timmons called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

ADOPT AGENDA

Jennewein moved to adopt the agenda. Second by Ainslie. Motion carried.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Creelman announced that she will be leaving her employment with the City of Rapid City. Creelman introduced Assistant City Attorney Jessica Rogers who will be taking her place. Rogers has been with the City of Rapid City since November 2014, prior she practiced law in Virginia and is familiar with Equal Employment Opportunity Claims.

Siyo arrived at 2:02 p.m.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 18, 2016 MEETING

Ainslie moved to approve the August 18, 2016 minutes. Second by Tice, Jr., Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ON COMMUNITY MEETINGS IN AUGUST

Timmons attended the Wasuyapi Team meeting at the Rapid City Public Library. Timmons mentioned the meetings are possibly switching to Monday nights. If anyone is interested in attending the Community Conversations meetings, sign up on their website www.communitycoversations.org to receive email notifications of meeting dates.

Jennewein left meeting at 2:15 p.m.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND 2016 PLANNING

- a) Presentation Planning – No presentations are scheduled at this time. Ainslie stated the key is getting out into the community either with the brochure or the PowerPoint. It's important to get the word out that the Human Relations Commission is available, ready, and willing to help. Ainslie will check into presenting at one of the subcommittees of the Chamber of Commerce such as the Government Affairs or Workforce Diversity.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

None.

ITEMS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS

- a) Discussion on Ad Placement in Native Sun News– The Black Hills Powwow is coming up in October and Timmons suggested this may be a good time to run an ad in the Native Sun News. Timmons presented an ad mock up with two estimates for the Commission to review and approve. Ainslie moved to approve the ad as presented for the smaller estimate in the amount of \$385.00 with the Chair to have discretion on which dates to run the ad. Motion died due to lack of second.

Ainslie again moved to approve the ad as presented for the smaller estimate in the amount of \$385.00 to run four ads during the Black Hills Powwow. Second by Tice, Jr. Motion carried.

Timmons reported that Allison Ramsdell was appointed as the head of the newly created Civil Rights Division in the U.S. Attorney's Office. Timmons emailed Ms. Ramsdell to congratulate her on the new appointment and provided her with information on the Human Relations Commission.

CASE STATUS UPDATE – CITY ATTORNEY

Rogers reported there are two potential cases pending. The complainant in the first case is currently working with the employer and it is possible the case may resolve on its own. The second case has two complainants pertaining to racial discrimination in the workplace.

LIAISON REPORT

Modrick updated the Commission on City Council happenings:

The budget is being discussed for 2017. Modrick asked what the Commission's budget was for 2016 as she intends to ask for the same amount for 2017. Timmons reported their budget is \$1,000.00.

Modrick reported she attended the annual Back 2 School Block Party at College Park. Money was raised to purchase 150 backpacks and school supplies for children. Modrick encouraged the Commission to participate in this event next year.

BUDGET UPDATE

Anderson stated the current budget amount is approximately \$905.22.

SET DATE AND TIME OF NEXT HRC MEETING.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 6, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURN

Timmons submitted her letter of resignation to the Commission, her term expires October 1, 2016. Ainslie thanked Timmons for her years of service as public servant along with the time and energy dedicated to the Commission.

Ainslie moved to adjourn. Second by Siyo. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 3:07 p.m.