

Date: Feb. 1st, 2017

To: Legal and Finance Committee

From: Andy A. Ainslie, Chairman, Human Relations Committee (HRC)

Re: Semi Annual Report

Complaints filed since July, 2016

Since the last report in July, the City Attorney's Office has had 8 calls. 3 calls were referred to the state, 4 were scheduled for appointments with the attorney. 1 call was brief and was going to call back and never did. We had one complaint filed in August and was also resolved in August.

Other activities of the Human Relations Commission

The Library Board has indicated interest in a presentation regarding the scope and mission of the HRC. A Power Point presentation is planned.

Vaughn Vargas, Community Liaison, and Police Chief, Karl Jegeris, updated the Commission with their efforts in their first year to increase Native American participation in the local police force. They indicated that there is much work is yet to be done. The HRC will work together with the Community Advisory Committee in the future.

HRC elections were held in October and Officers chosen as follows:

Andy A. Ainslie, Chair

Jackie Gerry, Vice Chair

Jamie Al-Haj, Administrative Officer

Newly appointed Commissioner, Diane Cleveland, was sworn in to replace Sue Timmons whose terms expired.

Andy and Jackie made a HRC Power Point presentation to the Rapid City Rotary Club that was well received. A presentation to the Rapid City Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors is planned in June or July.

Individual Commission members have been encouraged to reach out to other Community groups to get the word out about our existence and mission. And to attend/participate in other similarly inclined organizations as the HRC.

Continuing Education of Commissioners

Topics such as "Implicit Bias" and "White Privilege" have been addressed at Commission meetings to better understand discrimination issues in our community.

Budget

The HRC expects it will need more than the \$1000 currently allotted annually to fulfill our mission. Costs to advertise, bring in Speakers to educate the Commission and the Community on discrimination issues and costs associated with arbitration are just a few examples.

