Members present by roll call: Andy Ainslie, Diane Cleveland, Mel Siyo, Jamie Al-Haj and Merton B. Tice, Jr.
Absent: Jaqueline Gerry and Linn Jennewin.
Also present: Assistant City Attorney Jess Rogers, City Council Liaison Lisa Modrick, Suzan Nolan, Rowdy Brewick, and Legal Administrative Secretary, Jamie Anderson.

Ainslie called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

ADOPT AGENDA
Cleveland moved to adopt the agenda. Second by Siyo, Motion carried.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT
None

DEMOCRACY AND ACTION PRESENTATION
a) Speakers – Suzan Nolan and Rowdy Brewick presented on the Cities for CEDAW (The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women). CEDAW is a comprehensive international women’s human rights treaty, as an overarching framework for advancing political and economic equality for women in the United States as the local level; while at the same time lifting up the important benefits from U.S. ratification of the treaty. CEDAW provides an opportunity for dialogue on how to address persistent gaps in women’s full equality, particularly regarding closing the pay gap, reducing domestic violence, and stop trafficking. Nolan stated her background has been working in the schools for most of her professional life as a school counselor. Brewick stated she taught in the Rapid City School systems for 41 years. Nolan and Brewick have become partners in terms of the work they do together that deals with women. Nolan mentioned that Brewick and a few others are the ones that started the Women’s March here in Rapid. There were 1200 people that attended this march and it turned out very well. Nolan shared that the International Women’s Conference is starting tonight and Brewick is going to be honored as Woman of Distinction in our community for organizing the Woman’s March. Nolan stated the aim of CEDAW is to “Make the Global Local” and protect the rights of women and girls by adopting the principles of CEDAW in cities and towns across the United States. Nolan also mentioned that we are
one of the six countries in the world who has not signed on to this; and that women’s rights are human rights, and human rights are women’s rights, CEDAW is asking local governments to keep in mind the gender lens. Currently, Nolan and Brewick are working on getting Rapid City to become a CEDAW city. Handouts were provided to the Commission with information on CEDAW.

Al-Haj arrived 2:14 p.m.  
Tice, Jr. arrived at 2:23 p.m.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2, 2017 MEETING
Cleveland, moved to approve the February 2, 2017 minutes. Second by Al-Haj. Motion carried.

CASE STATUS UPDATE - CITY ATTORNEY’S OFFICE
Rogers stated the two employment complaints she currently was working on now have been deferred to the state. No meetings scheduled at this time.

DISCUSSION ON COMMUNITY MEETINGS IN FEBRUARY
Al-Haj reported that the Haven for Hope meeting went very well. The population addressed primarily at the meeting were the homeless and individuals who have mental health issues. The meeting gave some options on how to address the issues we are currently seeing in Rapid City.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND 2017 PLANNING
a) Presentation Planning – Siyo and Cleveland presented to the Ateyapi Mentoring Program on February 22, 2017. The presentation was held at the Rapid City Central High School. Siyo put together a summary of the presentation and provided handouts to the Commission. He mentioned there were 120 students and about 80 parents present. Cleveland stated it went very well.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE
Did not meet but visited via email.

ITEMS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS
a) Recommendations for future projects and associated costs – suggestions on future projects can be emailed to the Chair if needed. Discussion on possibly having flyers made to post at different locations with information on the Human Relations Commission. Tice, Jr., and Cleveland agreed to research Human Relations Commission’s similar to ours regarding their outreach and funding sources and report next month.
LIAISON REPORT
Modrick updated the Commission on City Council happenings:
Currently, they are working on the affordable housing program. Developers are coming before the city to try and figure out where workforce housing can come in. The prices are rather high just under $200,000 for affordable housing. Modrick stated the developers are wanting to see zoning changes in order to create low income and affordable income housing due to the shortage of housing. Modrick mentioned that Eric Bringswhite will be holding an Easter Egg Hunt for the children on April 15, 2017 at College Park. She said there are huge needs and representation at this event.

BUDGET UPDATE
Anderson stated the current budget amount is approximately $986

SET DATE AND TIME OF NEXT HRC MEETING.
The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 6, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURN
Al-Haj moved to adjourn. Second by Tice, Jr., Motion carried. The meeting ended at 3:47 p.m.