Members present by roll call: Andy Ainslie, Jacqueline Gerry, Jamie Al-Haj, Mel Siyo, Lin Jennewein, Merton B. Tice, Jr., and Diane Cleveland
Absent: None.
Also present: Assistant City Attorney Jess Rogers, City Council Liaison, Lisa Modrick and Paralegal, Stacy Lunde-Roduner.

Ainslie called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

ADOPT AGENDA
Gerry moved to adopt the agenda, second by Cleveland. Motion carried.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT
None

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE: ROBERT LEWIS

Attorney and mediator, Bob Lewis presented information to the Commission to help them gain a better understanding on how mediation works and when it should be used. Mr. Lewis described his extensive background as a civil defense attorney, primarily focusing on employment, civil rights and professional malpractice law. Since mediation became such a large part of his practice, he obtained 80 hours of formal training to gain additional knowledge on the process. Lewis feels mediation can work very well if it is properly facilitated. Mediation allows for the parties to come together to reach a mutually agreeable solution. The mediator is there to make the parties feel comfortable and facilitate the negotiations between the parties. Ainslie asked Lewis to give a ballpark estimate of the costs of mediation. Lewis stated it depends on the mediator you choose to hire. The range could be a flat fee of $500-1,000 per mediation or the mediator may charge $200-300 per hour. Siyo asked if the City Attorney could act as the mediator. Lewis explained the City Attorney cannot act as the mediator due to a conflict of interest since they do the investigation of each case. Tice, Jr. feels mediation is a win-win situation for everyone involved. The Commission thanked Mr. Lewis for coming and sharing his knowledge on mediation.
APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2, 2017 MEETING
Al-Haj moved to approve the March 2, 2017 minutes. Second by Cleveland. Motion carried.

CASE STATUS UPDATE - CITY ATTORNEY’S OFFICE
Assistant City Attorney Jessica Rogers updated the Commission on the pending employment case. The Respondent has requested a thirty day extension to respond to the complaint. Rogers anticipates this case will come before the Commission at some point.

DISCUSSION ON COMMUNITY MEETINGS IN MARCH
No one attended any meetings in March.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND 2017 PLANNING
a) Presentation Planning – PowerPoint training continued to the May 4, 2017 meeting. Cleveland is having conversations with three organizations. They are still working on dates.

Ainslie discussed a group of St. Thomas More students who created a documentary called “Searching for Justice in the Land of Liberty”. The documentary focused on discrimination and he would like to reach out to them and see if they would be willing to come to an HRC meeting to speak about their documentary. The Commission agreed to extend an invitation to the students.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE
None.

ITEMS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS
a) Recommendations for future projects and associated costs – Tice Jr. and Cleveland stated Sioux Falls has an award for businesses for their contribution to the community. They thought maybe the Commission would like to do something similar and if so, who are we recognizing? Modrick stated the Chamber also has a Community Relations Program similar to what Tice, Jr. is describing. The Commission discussed various ideas on how to recognize the value of diversity. Tice, Jr. suggested having classrooms create posters on their views of on diversity or ask the older students to write essays on the subject. The Commission collaboratively settled on a project involving the schools possibly for next fall since we are nearing the end of school. Modrick also suggested to have a couple of Commission members meet with Dr. Simon about this project once the criteria is established. This item will be placed on the May agenda for further discussion.

Ainslie obtained a few quotes for prices to print additional brochures. Gerry moved to allot $250.00 for the printing of brochures. Second by Tice, Jr. Motion carried.
Siyo feels it would be important to have a sign on the window or above the City Attorney’s door so people are able to find the office. It was noted the HRC information will be on the new kiosk in the lobby.

_Ainslie left meeting at 2:45 p.m._

Al-Haj gave information on an upcoming event called Native Games Community Event, sponsored by the Rapid City Police Department, U.S. Forest Service, Partnership with Native Americans and SDSU Extension. It is a family day of fun to learn how to play traditional Native American games such as Ring the Stick, Hoop and Arrow, Lacrosse and more. The event is scheduled for May 6, 2017 from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at College Park.

_Al-Haj left meeting at 3:19 p.m._

**LIAISON REPORT**
Lisa Modrick gave an update on the recent trip to San Antonio, Texas for the Haven of Hope Project. Rapid City has been attached to their program and followed it. The County Health and Human Services building will be the campus of the one stop place for community health and relations. It is a community project possibly set to open March 1, 2018. Modrick also reminded the Commission members about the College Park Easter Event on April 15th. There will be food, fun and Easter festivities.

**BUDGET UPDATE**
Lunde-Roduner stated the current budget amount is approximately $986.00.

**SET DATE AND TIME OF NEXT HRC MEETING.**
The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 4, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

**ADJOURN**
Siyo moved to adjourn. Second by Cleveland. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 3:43 p.m.