Members present by roll call: Andy Ainslie, Jacqueline Gerry, Lin Jennewein, Merton B. Tice, Jr., Jamie Al-Haj and Mel Siyo
Absent: Diane Cleveland.
Also present: Assistant City Attorney Jessica Rogers, Administrative Secretary, Robin Garner.

Ainslie called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

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

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT
None.

APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 1, 2017 MEETING
Gerry moved to approve the June 1, 2017 minutes. Second by Tice. Motion carried.

CASE STATUS UPDATE- CITY ATTORNEY’S OFFICE
Assistant City Attorney Jessica Rogers updated the Commission on the pending employment complaint. The respondent has replied to the initial complaint and Rogers’ requests for additional information. After a review of the documents, this complaint will be dismissed as no discrimination was found.

Rogers has one new employment discrimination complaint pending. She is currently waiting for the complainant to review and sign the complaint. Rogers added there has been only two meetings with potential complainants this summer.

Siyo asked Rogers if there is a common theme amongst complainants. Rogers explained most complaints are housing or employment based. She hears a lot of employees complaining about employers who are being unfair but not necessarily discrimination based.

Al-Haj arrived at 2:05 p.m.
Siyo arrived at 2:10 p.m.
DISCUSSION ON COMMUNITY MEETINGS IN JUNE & JULY
None.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND 2017 PLANNING
a) Continued Discussion on School Outreach Project – Al-Haj informed the Commission that Dr. Lori Simon has referred this project to Dr. Seabom. Cleveland has scheduled a conference call tomorrow with Dr. Seabom to discuss the school project. The project will be a campaign of some sort to educate school age children on discrimination. This project has yet to be defined and no time line has been set.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE
Ainslie shared a newspaper article about Sioux San with the Commission.

ITEMS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS
Siyo would like to arrange a presentation for the Commission on Sioux San with the organizers of the Sioux San forum. He will attempt to make contact with them before the next meeting.

LIAISON REPORT
None.

BUDGET UPDATE
Tice would like the Commission to develop a plan for the 2018 budget. He volunteered to contact someone in the Sioux Falls Human Relations Commission office to find out how they allocate funding. Siyo would like to see money budgeted for Commissioner training sessions and education for the public. Ainslie feels the Commission is doing a good job getting the word out about the Commission. If the Commission has helped one individual, it is a win.

Garner stated the current budget amount is approximately $986.00 with $250.00 allocated for the printing of brochures.

SET DATE AND TIME OF NEXT HRC MEETING.
Ainslie reminded the Commission to notify the City Attorney’s office if you are unable to attend meeting. Garner will add a reply request to the agenda notification emails in an effort to ensure a quorum.

Ainslie shared with the Commission that he has sent his resignation to the Mayor, effective after the September meeting.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 7, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURN
Gerry moved to adjourn. Second by Al-Haj. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 2:53 p.m.