

**MARION CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 6:30 pm**

Marion City Hall  
1225 6th Avenue, Marion, IA 52302

**Commissioners Present:**

Chris Stoner  
Dave Baumler  
Frederick Brown  
Jenifer Tibbets  
Kent Jackson  
Bret Nilles  
Danielle Brazant  
Kim Eiler  
Selita Jansen

**Commissioners Absent:**

Okpara Rice  
Renaë Forsyth-Christy

**Staff/Other Present:**

Amal Eltahir, City of Marion

**I. Call to Order**

Noting there was a quorum, Commissioner Nilles, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

**II. Roll Call/Introductions**

Commissioners and staff introduced themselves.

**III. Public Response**

The was no public response.

**IV. Director's Report**

Commissioner Nilles presented the November case report stating that one housing related case was filed in October. Commission continue to express interest in more data and analytics on complaints' categories to direct commission's education efforts.

Commissioner Jackson moved to approve CRCRC invoice for administrative work in the amount of 160 dollars, seconded by Commissioner Baumler, motion passed.

V. **Approval of Minutes from October Meeting**

Commissioner Eiler moved to approve the October minutes as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Stoner, motion passed.

VI. **Report from Chair**

Commissioner Nilles emphasized the value of the commission's partnership with the Marion Library.

VII. **Committee Reports**

a. *Executive Committee*- Commissioner Jackson

Commissioners met to set the agenda. Regular meeting date was set to be a week earlier to leave enough time for following up on items. Committee heard about an inquiry regarding commissioners' appointment process.

b. *Cedar Rapids Civil Rights Commission Liaison* - Renae Forsyth-Christy

No report.

c. *Grants & Strategic Planning Committee* -Commissioner Brown

Commissioner Brown will update and send out project timeline. Grant press release is planned for the upcoming Marion Messenger issue. Application will open on November 26<sup>th</sup> and close on January 10<sup>th</sup>.

VIII. **Unfinished Business**

a. Events

- i. History Makers Gala – October 3<sup>rd</sup> Commissioners Rice and Nilles attended on behalf of MCRC
- ii. Protecting Places of Worship- October 22nd -No one was able to attend

IX. **New Business**

a. MCRC members reappointment- Commissioners Nilles, Baumler, Jackson, and Forsyth-Christy expressed interest in getting reappointed.

b. Upcoming Events

- i. MLK Movie Night – CR Public Library, January 16  
Commissioner Stoner is planning to reach out to the Marion library staff to talk about plans for activities regarding MLK and Black History month. Commission is looking to cosponsor events at the library.
- ii. MLK Public Sector Job Fair- Event will be held at the Cedar Rapids Public Library on January 17

X. **Good of the Order**

Commissioner Eiler is taking the lead on hosting a speaker from Mercy Hospital to talk about human trafficking. Commissioner Stoner suggested promoting the event through the library.

XI. **Adjournment**

Commissioner Jackson motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Jensen, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 6:30 pm at Marion City Hall, 1225 6th Avenue, Marion, Iowa.

*Respectfully submitted by Amal Eltabir, City of Marion*

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