



MINUTES

Civil Rights Commission

6:00 PM - Wednesday, September 7, 2022

City Hall, 1225 6th Avenue

Minutes are in draft format until approved at the next meeting

The Civil Rights Commission of the City of Marion, Linn County, Iowa met on Wednesday, September 7, 2022, at 6:00 PM, in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 1225 6th Avenue, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Kent Jackson, Denise Bridges, Okpara Rice, Jennifer Tibbetts, Bret Nilles, Steven Moshier, and Jo-Smith Brizard

ABSENT: Angelica Vannatta and Renae Forsyth-Christy

STAFF PRESENT: Alicia Abernathey

OTHERS PRESENT: Ana Clymer and Denine Rushing

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners and staff introduced themselves.

PUBLIC FORUM

Ana Clymer stated she appreciates the Commission's progress on the equity statement and the monthly staff liaison reports including updates on the Community Equity Taskforce initiatives. Clymer asked the Commission to educate residents on their rights and how to file a complaint with the Commission and also encouraged the Commission to partner with other agencies.

Bridges arrived at 6:09 p.m.

REGULAR AGENDA

Motion to approve the August 3, 2022 minutes

Moved by Rice, seconded by Moshier, to approve the August 3, 2022 minutes.

Approved unanimously

Cedar Rapids Executive Director/Liaison Report (Stefanie/Renae)

Alicia Abernathey, Executive Assistant, stated a report was not received from Cedar Rapids and the liaison is not present.

Tibbetts provided an update on outreach initiatives and community partnerships of the Cedar Rapids Civil Rights Commission (CRCRC). Tibbetts shared an update on CRCRC's caseload.

Staff Liaison Report (Alicia)

Abernathey provided the monthly staff liaison report including updates on the City's personnel policy review, the equity statement, police department updates, and the commissioner vacancy.

Community Outreach Discussion (All)

Abernathey provided an updated on the outreach subcommittee and on recent outreach purchases for the Commission.

The Commission discussed various outreach events and initiatives.

International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies Discussion (Jennifer)

Tibbetts provided a handout summarizing information she received at the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies (IAOHRA) annual conference. The Commission discussed restorative justice practices.

[IAOHRA Resources Handout](#)

PUBLIC FORUM

Clymer shared feedback on outreach efforts.

Denine Rushing shared experiences she believes were discriminatory and indicated she will file a complaint. The Commission shared information on filing discrimination complaints.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioners shared their thoughts and feelings on information shared during the public forum from Denine Rushing.

ADJOURN

Moved by Nilles, seconded by Bridges to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Approved unanimously

Respectfully submitted by:
Alicia Abernathey, Executive Assistant