



MINUTES

Civil Rights Commission

6:00 PM - Wednesday, October 4, 2023

Library, 1101 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, October 4, 2023, at 6:00 PM, in Community Room A of the Library, 1101 6th Avenue, with the following members present:

PRESENT: Kent Jackson, Megan Middaugh, Angelica Vannatta, Steven Moshier, Cody Crawford, Renae Forsyth-Christy, and Katie Tanner

ABSENT: Denise Bridges and Okpara Rice

STAFF PRESENT: Alicia Abernathey and Jenna Silver

OTHERS PRESENT: Ana Clymer, Briana Clymer, Aleena Mansoor, Hannah Neuville, Jennifer Tibbetts and Gary Sneller

CALL TO ORDER

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

PUBLIC FORUM

No one from the public wished to speak.

Tanner arrived at 6:02 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS/GUEST SPEAKERS

Youth Allyship Video Presentation - Marion Alliance for Racial Equity representatives

Ana Clymer, Briana Clymer, Aleena Mansoor and Hannah Neuville, representatives of the Marion Alliance for Racial Equity (MARE), shared a video they created focused on diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging. The group shared how interviews were conducted and how they came up with the questions for the interviews. Commissioners asked questions about the process of conducting interviews and creating the video.

REGULAR AGENDA

Motion to approve the September 6, 2023 minutes

Moved by Crawford, seconded by Forsyth-Christy, to approve the September 6, 2023 minutes.

Approved unanimously

Cedar Rapids Civil Rights Commission (CRCRC) Report

Jennifer Tibbetts, CRCRC Investigator, shared information on CRCRC outreach efforts, including upcoming activities for the CRCRC's 60th anniversary celebration.

Staff Liaison Report

Abernathy provided the monthly staff liaison report including an update on a recent brochure purchase, upcoming staff coverage of Commission meetings and Commission vacancies.

December 2023 Meeting Discussion

Vannatta shared the Executive Committee discussed cancelling the December meeting and having a social gathering instead. The gathering would be to celebrate the holidays and say farewell to the Commissioners stepping down at the end of the year. The Commission was in agreement with cancelling the December meeting and having a social gathering instead. Abernathy will coordinate the social gathering.

Strategic Plan Check-In

Commissioners had no updates to share.

Outreach Plan Check In

Commissioners volunteered for various outreach efforts outlined in the outreach plan.

Community Outreach Discussion

Commissioners debriefed community outreach events that took place this year and shared what worked well and what didn't.

PUBLIC FORUM

No one from the public was present.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Jackson inquired about what the ordinance states for frequency of Commission meetings. Abernathy clarified the ordinance was updated to remove the requirement the Commission meet each month. The ordinance now states the Commission will meet once per quarter.

ADJOURN

Vannatta adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Alicia Abernathy, Executive Assistant