

<b>MINUTES</b>	Thursday, July 13 <sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm	
Human Relations Commission Meeting	Commission Room 1st Floor—City Hall 224 West Ninth Street Sioux Falls, South Dakota	

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Sheku Bannister, Tony Burke, Meghan Joyce, Elmar Delibasic, Vicki Stewart, Megan Grode-Wolters, Tajuan Jackson, Kassidi Smith, Dawn Marie Johnson

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Anny Libengood, Nassir Yemem

**STAFF PRESENT:** Sharla Svenes, Sage Stansell, Shelby Specht

**CALL TO ORDER**

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 12:02pm. M/S/C by Commissioner Delibasic, Commissioner Bannister to approve agenda.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

M/S/C by Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Stewart to approve minutes from the June 2023 meeting.

**HRC OFFICE UPDATE**

- A. Sharla Svenes and Commissioner Vicki Stewart were panelists at the Downtown Rotary recently and shared their experience. Employment accommodations and working with people with disabilities were the main discussion topics. They both said there was good discussion, questions engagement and awareness from those in attendance.
- B. During the HRC meeting, it was identified that some city businesses have been posting signs saying a certificate for service animals must be displayed to enter. This is not required, and Sharla asked those in attendance at HRC meeting to please let her know if the group sees or hears of other instances.
- C. Sharla shared she has information on a hunting opportunity for youth with disabilities- please see her for more on how to apply.
- D. Case Status Update- 16 open cases (1 pending case panel review, 1 rebuttal, 1 needing additional information, 1 close to completion pending conciliation, the rest under investigation).

## **BUSINESS OR PENDING ISSUES BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD**

### **A. Subcommittee Updates**

#### I. Communications and Outreach (Chair Bannister, Johnson, Smith) – Staff Liaison Stansell

- Outstanding Action Items
  - i. ACTION: Each commissioner seeks out one person to volunteer to assist at outreach events.
- Upcoming Events – Kunama Cultural Festival August 4-6<sup>th</sup>
  - ACTION: Review outreach budget and order supplies for events- ie. T-shirts, name badges, stickers (some items to be ordered pending name change timeline).
  - ACTION: HRC to check event sign up and have several slots filled by next month's meeting.
- Events to Consider –Kunama Festival; Avera Event, & Native American Day Parade- These events will be added to sign up. Keep in mind Kunama is just to have a presence, no booth.

#### II. . Planning work group (Co-Chairs Grode-Wolters & Burke, Johnson, Delibasic)

- Outstanding Action Items
  - i. Mapping Tool Update – Phase one internal conversations to define needs: Phase two external partnerships.
  - ii. DE&I Board and Committees Information is put together
    - ACTION: HRC to check into status of board/commissions training session.
  - iii. Avera Community Health Resource Center (CHWs) Visit
    - ACTION: Keep a standing meeting; consider making liaison positions.
  - iv. ACTION: 2023 Event Planning Discussion: Brainstorm ideas.
- Community Ambassadors Volunteer (CAV) Position
  - ACTION: All Commissioners reviewed Community Ambassador Volunteer Position. After group discussion, Commission Grode-Wolters motioned to remove the SSN, Driver License Number and question regarding arrest history off application to limit barriers to apply. M/S/C by Commissioner Bannister, Commissioner Delibasic to approve CAV application.

III. Chapter 98 review (Grode-Wolters, Libengood, Myers, Burke) • UPDATE – No update currently. HRO to meet with City Attorney and Administration and will provide an update after.

### **GUEST SPEAKERS**

Several members from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People spoke regarding their organization and how others in the community could participate. President Langston Newton shared that NAACP is a non-partisan group that supports civil rights for all communities and fights against social injustice. Goals of the NAACP include 300-person membership by the end of 2023 and an increased focus on helping youth. Newton advised more info can be found, including how to join, on their national website.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

None.

**NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup> 12pm.

**ADJOURNMENT**

M/S/C by Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Stewart to adjourn the meeting at 1:01pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kassidi Smith- Secretary