

MINUTES

Thursday, June 11, 2009



**Sioux Falls
Human Relations
Commission**

12 Noon—1 p.m.
Commission Room, First Floor
City Hall
224 West Ninth Street

Commissioners: Present: Ahrendt, Aware, Carlson, Hariri, Rist and Williams. DAC Liaison, Farabee

Absent: Abbott, Guzman, Lodu, Luecke and Waara.

Staff: Gary Colwill, Human Relations Manager; and Carol Garry, Human Relations Assistant.

Guests:

1. Call to Order/Welcome Guests

- Chairperson Hariri called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

- **Carlson moved to approve the minutes from the May 14, 2009, meeting; Rist seconded.** Minutes were approved as presented.

3. Status of Cases/Staff Report

- Colwill updated the Commission on the status of the open cases. Two of the three oldest cases have been turned in by the contract investigator; one will be assigned to the June case panel; the other is going through the internal review process. The third is a staff investigation where the CP identified more witnesses delaying the finalization of this report.
- Since May 1st, six new charges have been filed.

4. Appointment—June Case Panel

- Abbott, Carlson, Hariri, Waara, and Williams

5. Continuing Business

a. PSA Subcommittee

- CH 16 has prepared a thirty second PSA to air on CH 16 and Midco.
- No work has been started on the HRC' new PSA

b. Humanitarian Award

Commission Chair: Vaney Hariri

Commission Vice Chair: Clint Waara

Commission 3rd Officer: Teresa Luecke

HUMANITARIAN AWARD COMMITTEE
Chair—Terry Rist
Karla Abbott
Rod Carlson
Vaney Hariri
Wanda Harris
Jeff Munce

HUD Contract Committee
Karla Abbott
Qadir Aware
Rod Carlson
Vaney Hariri
Terry Rist
Clint Waara

PSA Committee
Sandra Guzman
James Lodu
Teresa Luecke—Chair
Dwayne Williams
Kathy Rustwick
Billie Jo Waara

- The contract for the sculptor is being finalized. Once it has gone through the internal review process, it will be sent to Darwin to sign prior to the Mayor's signature
- We haven't had confirmation if the Argus Leader has agreed to be the print sponsor – not sure if they have been approached. The Argus ran an article on the nominations in Sunday, June 7th edition, page 2A.
- Thanks to Wanda Harris and Commissioner Carlson for securing KELO as our media sponsor. They met with Jay Huizenga, General Manager who seemed very interested in the HRC; asking a lot of questions about our work. KELO has agreed to help get the word out about the nomination with a PSA they create and help promote the event.
- The nomination process is ready to go. The press release went out on June 3rd. Posters with a tear off nomination form are available for Commissioners to hand out where there are community bulletin boards. Staff will prepare a list of possible locations and Commissioners can indicate where they can drop one off. The letters to the churches and civic/service organizations will be mailed on Monday, June 15, 2009.
- We are still working on getting entertainment lined up. The Lost Artists will be participating.
- The Request for Proposal was sent to the list of caterers on June 5th with a June 19th deadline. The committee will narrow the submissions down for the taste testing.

6. New Business

a. **No new business was discussed**

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7. Disability Awareness Commission Report

- The DAC will not be making an application for the NOD's Accessible America award this year as one of their projects. Staff will work with other local groups to gather information once the competition is announced. Some DAC members may wish to assist with the process. It will be pursued, just not sure when or how.
- The DAC has put together a tentative panel for the City/County Awareness Training. Along with the 10 Commandments of Communicating with People with Disabilities, a panel of people with different disabilities will discuss how to best relate to them as customers.
- The DAC projects update:
 - A raised bed garden at the community garden spaces to allow people with disabilities to tend a garden – the DAC will find a

service group who would be interested in creating these accessible garden sites. The DAC will serve as a resource.

- An art expo for people with disabilities to showcase their talent – the DAC met at the Museum of Visual Materials to find out if the venue would be a good place for this event. The DAC will continue to develop this project. Plans are for 2010 during the time of the year when the weather is more tolerable.
- A sticker program that will identify gas stations that assist people with disabilities to fill their cars with gas – this is on hold pending fact finding. The DAC needs to research what the requirements are under the ADA.

8. Public Comment

- Festival of Cultures is June 20, 2009, beginning with the Parade of Flags at 11:30 am. The Diversity Council will participate with a booth.
- The Juneteenth Celebration will be held on June 11, 2009, at Falls Park, from 5 to 8 p.m.; free food and entertainment. Chairperson Hariri will be performing. There will also be a display from the SD's Black History Museum.

9. Adjournment

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

*Quorum was lost at 12:20pm when Commissioner Aware had to leave.
Minutes respectfully submitted by Carol Garry.*