

# MINUTES

Monday, June 13, 2016



Sioux Falls  
Human Relations  
Commission

12 Noon—1 p.m.  
Commission Room  
First Floor, City Hall

## Commissioners:

**Present:** Sarah Bouwman, Deborah Deng, John Jones, Jack Mortenson, Bill Wood, Alex Rameriz, Henry Scere, Joanne Haase, James Larson

**Absent:** Stephen Brennan

**Staff:** Colleen Moran, Human Relations Manager; Brooke Pape, Paraprofessional

**DAC Member Present:** Walter Schaefer

**Guests Present:** None

## 1. Call to Order/Welcome Guests

Commissioner Jack Mortenson called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

## 2. Approval of Minutes

Bouwman moved to approve the May 09, 2016 meeting minutes. Ramirez seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

## 3. Civil Rights Update

A. On June 12, 2016 in Orlando, Florida the biggest mass shooting in the history of the United States occurred at Pulse, a LGBT night club. Approximately 50 people were killed, including the gunman, and 53 others were wounded. The shooter was a 29-year-old American citizen with believed ties to ISIS. Also on June 12, 2016 in Los Angeles, a 20-year-old man was arrested on his way to a Gay Pride event. The 20-year-old from Indiana was arrested due to explosive material and weapon(s) in his car.

B. *If There's Only One Woman in Your Candidate Pool, There's Statistically No Chance She'll Be Hired* is an article by Stefanie K. Johnson, David R. Hekman, and Elsa T. Chan. The article explains the unconscious bias of selecting a candidate for employment. The article included the following statistics:

- a. 85% of board members and executives are white males
- b. A woman has a 67% chance of likelihood of getting hired with 3 women and 1 male as the finalist.
- c. A woman has 0% chance of likelihood of getting hired with 1 woman and 3 males.

**4. Appointment of Case Panel B**

James Larson, Sarah Bouwman, Joanne Haase, Alex Ramirez, Henry Scere

**5. Continuing Business**

A. 3<sup>rd</sup> Officer

- a. Wood's resigned as 3<sup>rd</sup> officer. Bouwman will be the only 3<sup>rd</sup> officer now.

**6. New Business**

A. Human Relations Office Update

- a. The office received 249 phone calls in May. Of those, 110 involved housing issues. The office also had 15 scheduled contact/intake appointments and numerous unscheduled contacts/intakes.

B. Compassionate Sioux Falls

- a. Compassionate Sioux Falls will be having an interactive Living Library at the Pride Festival on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Participants will be able to "check out" a person for a selected amount of time to have a conversation to challenge stereotypes and prejudices.

C. Communication & Outreach Committee breakouts

- a. Scere spoke at the Festival of Cultures on Saturday June 11, 2016. Scere reported it went well and people appreciate what the commission is doing.

**7. Disability Awareness Commission Report – Provided by Schaefer**

A. DAC will be electing officers in their next meeting on Wednesday June 15, 2016.

- B. The commission voted to move the DAC report portion of the agenda to earlier in the meeting, beginning at the next scheduled meeting.

**8. Public Comment**

- A. Mortenson asked the commission to look over the HRC ordinances and information as he would like to spend a portion of each upcoming meeting discussing the commission's duties and the support it can provide to the Human Relations Office.

- B. Amendments to Code of Ordinances of Sioux Falls, Chapter 98, are on hold at this time.

**9. Adjournment**

Having no further business, Commissioner Jones moved to adjourn; Rameriz seconded. The meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

***Minutes respectfully submitted by Brooke Pape.***