

Isabella County Human Rights Committee
Minutes November 5, 2018

Members Present

Elizabeth Husbands, Vice Chairperson
Sarvjit Chowdhary
Laura Gonzales
David Ling- County Commission Liaison
Matt Mertz
Alicia Paterni
Amy Shawboose
Ann Swift

Excused Absences

Maureen Eke, Chairperson
Justin Knott
Cheryl Gonzalez

1. Welcome

Elizabeth Husbands called meeting to order at 5:23 pm. Elizabeth Husbands requested the following items be added to the agenda. Alternate ways HRC members can attend meetings remotely. October meeting minutes tabled to December meeting. David Ling added storage discussion to business to be added. Laura Gonzales added Community Education Subcommittee to November agenda.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda as amended. Proposed by Sarvjit Chowdhary, seconded by Alicia Paterni, moved and carried.

3. Approval of October Minutes

This was tabled till next meeting so all HRC members have time to read the October minutes.

4. Public Comments

No Public Comments

5. Reports

Chair's Report – No Chair report

Community Ed Subcommittee – Laura Gonzales explained that any HRC member is welcome to join the committee. Next meeting 11/8/18 at 5:30 pm at Panera Bread in Mt. Pleasant. These meetings will be held between HRC monthly meetings.

ii. Budget Updates-

Laura Gonzales stated the budget was unchanged.

iii. MLK Day -

Elizabeth Husbands stated that Martin Luther King Jr. day, January 21, 2019, is going to be a big event this year. Elizabeth Husbands thought that Chairperson Maureen Eke has already signed HRC up for a CMU event on this day. HRC members will wait for the December meeting to discuss these activities with Chairperson Maureen Eke.

iv. Presentation at CMU

Black history month in February 2019. Elizabeth Husbands to present newly updated Micro-aggression information. Elizabeth Husbands stated that Maureen Eke will put December presentation on hold.

v. HRC By-Laws

A subcommittee needs to be formed to work on updating HRC By- Laws. The review needs to include how the committee works with members who have left the HRC. David Ling suggested adding a section in the by-laws that include what action the committee can take when a member has missed several HRC monthly meetings, suggesting that if a member has 3 unexcused absences that a letter will be sent asking them to resign within a certain time frame. Elizabeth Husbands asked committee members to volunteer for the ad hoc By-Laws committee. Amy Shawboose, Mat Mertz, and Alicia Paterni volunteered for this committee. Alicia Paterni stated that a meeting request will be emailed to these members so a meeting time and location can be determined.

vi. December Pot Luck

Laura Gonzales stated she would bring cups and plates and silverware to the Pot Luck. Alicia Paterni stated she will create a google doc sign up sheet to email members. Amy Shawboose stated the December meeting will be David Ling's last meeting.

vii. Christmas Holiday Parared

Amy Shawboose stated that the MCity's annual holiday festival and parade is December 1, 2018 and is looking for HRC members to join her.

6. Subcommittee Updates

Community Education Subcommittee is scheduled to meet at Panera Bread in November.

7. Old Business

No old business

8. New Business

David Ling wished to discuss the HRC Storage Area. HRC has a lot of boxes of materials, however, HRC members do not have access to materials on short notice. Should HRC rent an offsite storage unit to move all our materials to? The Court House building wants its space back. Anne Swift suggested that the funding for a unit should come out of the Commissioners' budget, as there is not adequate storage space for the HRC materials in the Court House building. Laura Gonzales stated that whatever we do with the materials they need to stay organized and easily accessible. David Ling will look into how much a storage unit would cost the HRC and will report it at the December meeting.

9. Announcements

Mat Mertz reported that at the last Student Government City Commission meeting they discussed what the city and students can do for the community. Mat Mertz reported that the HRC was mentioned as an avenue for students looking for community advocacy.

Elizabeth Husbands brought up the idea of remote meetings for the HRC. Elizabeth Husbands is interested in making the HRC meetings more accessible for members who frequently travel, in hopes that this will help increase quorum at meetings and improve participation.

10. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was proposed by Amy Shawboose and supported by David Ling. Motion passed at 6:55 p.m.