

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MINUTES

Approved 9-18-18

The Human Rights Commission met on Tuesday, August 21, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room at the Kandiyohi County Historical Society.

Members present were: Shelly Huseby, Marlin Breems, Shawn Mueske, Fernando Alvarado, Barbara Little, Richard Engan and Lilbon Clark.

Item No. 1 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Shelly Huseby at 5:00 p.m.

Item No. 2 Approve Minutes of Meeting

Chair Huseby presented the minutes of the June 19, 2018 meeting for discussion. Commission Member Breems moved to approve the Human Rights Commission minutes of June 19, 2018 and Commission Member Little seconded the motion, which carried.

Item No. 3 Public Comment

There were no members of the public in attendance who wished to comment.

Item No. 4 Sheriff Candidate Forum Follow-up

Chair Huseby led the discussion with the Commission on the Sheriff Candidate Forum hosted by the League of Women on August 7th. All four candidates participated and the Commission's suggested questions were asked. Each one of the candidates addressed the questions similarly relating to racial and immigration issues.

Item No. 5 Introduction of New Commission Member

Chair Huseby introduced newly appointed Commission Member Lilbon Clark who commented on his interest in being on the Commission to include political climate. Each member of the Commission gave a brief introduction of themselves and their interest in being part of the Human Rights Commission. Mr. Clark was welcomed as a new member.

Item No. 6 Other Topics for Fall up for Discussion

The Commission briefly touched on topics for discussion to include an update by Commission Member Mueske on the Dog Park. It was reported the parking lot will be reconstructed and the entrance road widened to 16 feet to match the apron. Once this is completed City crews will be installing concrete sidewalk from the parking lot to the entrance.

Commission Members discussed awareness of City ordinances i.e., clearing of snow and ice from sidewalks that border your residence, raking leaves into the streets and how to get the word out to new residents and incorporating some type of a social integration plan. It was brought up that some church(es) have "Kindness Programs" or committees that assist those who cannot mow or clear sidewalks.

Chair Huseby will be in contact with the groups hosting forums before the election and report back the dates to the Commission.

Commissioner Little brought forward for discussion instances of medical facilities profiling whereby they decide who to treat, term some individuals as “drug seeking” and turn them away. She provided an article from “Psychiatric Times” citing a problem whereby patients with psychiatric issues all too frequently receive substandard medical care in the hospital setting. This article will be sent out electronically with the meeting minutes for future discussion.

The Commission discussed holding some type of a public forum event to touch on these topics.

The next meeting date of the Commission will be Tuesday, September 18, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. A motion was made by Commissioner Engan, seconded by Commissioner Little and passed to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janell Sommers
Administrative Assistant