

CEDAR FALLS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2008

- I. CALL TO ORDER/ATTENDANCE: Vice-Chairperson Winther called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Other commissioners present: Busch, Day, Langan, Range, Schlicher, Shankar, and Shehata. Commissioners Johns and Luvert were absent. Bumgarner resigned mid-February. Personnel Specialist & HRC Liaison Brenda Balvanz was also present.
- II. AGENDA CHANGES/COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – Balvanz added to New Business: commissioner resignation/contact with potential commissioner and immigration enforcement and police relations paper request for information. Latter item referred to the 3/3 Education Committee.
- III. APPROVAL OF 11-19-07 & 1-21-08 MINUTES - Motioned by Day & Range. All Ayes.
- IV. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. DVD –
 1. Balvanz noted changes to the 5th version were emailed.
 2. Day informed commissioners of input from Veridian management's 2/14 viewing. Overall, they were pleased and thought it was nicely done. The Education Committee will discuss what specific changes can/should be made.
 3. Obtaining final talent releases is in process.
 4. Closed captioning charges were discussed again. Two providers were researched charging about \$130 or \$6.00/minute. Day moved KWWL be selected for the \$130 pricing; seconded by Busch. All Ayes.
 5. Range updated commissioners that translators are available for \$50/person. It was moved by Shehata and seconded by Busch to translate the audio into Spanish and Bosnian to fulfill the grant application after the English version is finalized. There was discussion about the number of languages the DVD will be translated into, justification for the above versions, and an amendment by Shankar to complete complaint forms into these two languages if the DVD would be. Amendment declined. All Ayes to the prior motion.
 6. The DVD will be shown to the City Council for their input on 2/25 at 6:30 pm and to the League of Human Rights Agencies members on 2/28.
 - b. Joint Commission Statement Update -In process.
 - c. 1/30 CVECI PowerPoint/Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity (SO/GI) Presentation – Day reported the presentation was well received and Rebecca Johnson from the Waterloo Commission did an excellent job providing employers information about SO/GI. Balvanz will email an evaluation form to Day and Johnson to complete.
 - d. VISTA Update/Potential Projects Emailed – Balvanz emailed a summary from the conference call that took place. After further discussion, Shehata suggested each committee discuss projects and expense handling before a percentage split with Waterloo be determined.
 - e. 2/28 Legislative Breakfast/Meeting – Attendees will include Day, Busch, Shankar, and Balvanz. Departure information was finalized and Balvanz will invite local legislators via email. The DVD will be shown at the meeting, not the breakfast meeting w/legislators. Schlicher suggested it be shown at the May retreat when local legislators can focus on viewing. There was brief discussion about charging for a copy of the DVD for those not included on the "free 100 copy" listing (to be determined). The Education Committee will discuss criteria for those receiving free; Range mentioned commissioners can receive a copy separate from the 100 in EdgeCore's agreement.
 - f. Lincoln Housing Conference – Busch said the 2007 conference was very good and included Federal HUD contacts and applicability to non-housing complaints. Expenses for Busch and Schlicher to attend March 25-26 were discussed, and Day motioned and Range seconded their expenses be reimbursed. All Ayes. Balvanz will coordinate lodging and van arrangements.

V. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Case Activity & Forms Provided Since 1/21 Mtg. – Balvanz noted there would be a fact finding February 19th at 4 pm.; one complaint was received but the CFHRC does not have jurisdiction to process; one complaint form was sent to an individual, and the form was emailed to the Waterloo Commission.
- b. Anti-Discrimination Advertising Opportunity – Day asked that ICRC Director Rosenberg provide additional information about this at the 2/28 League meeting.
- c. GKG Incident – Balvanz summarized the phone call she received and noted Attorney Hansen called to discuss and caution commissioners of their involvement during a police investigation. Balvanz advised commissioners to contact her regarding questions regarding their involvement. Day offered his awareness of the incident and provided information to Balvanz re: response to hate crimes to provide to commissioners for the item to be discussed at the 3/3 Education Committee. He met with Chief Ahlstrom to discuss and potential interest of the CFHRC working with them on an appropriate response to hate crimes, when they do occur.
- d. Police Training - Day noted the response has been good, but there was a lack of community participants at the 2/13 session. Two more sessions are planned for Feb. 19 & 25.
- e. 2/21 Waterloo's Human Rights Awards Luncheon – Day plans to attend.
- f. 2/22 Immigration 101 Training Via Conference Call – Balvanz welcomed all to sit in from Noon-1:30 pm in the north conference room in City Hall. Shehata requested the call be taped.
- g. 3/6 Culture Fest – Day plans to attend and the Power Point will be shown on the display table.

- VI. COMMITTEE & STAFF REPORTS: The following committee minutes were received and filed as motioned by Day and Busch; All Ayes. Committee mtg. activity was previously reported on.
- Education: 12-3-07 & 1-7-08
 - Professional Development: 12-3-07 & 1-7-08
 - Finance: Did not meet 2/18 as agenda noted

Staff – Balvanz was provided a copy of the Inclusive Communities magazine from the Mayor. Day will review and report on at the 3/3 Education Committee.

- VII. NEXT MEETING DATE: 3-17-08 at 7:00 p.m. in the Duke Young conference room in City Hall.

- VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS/ADJOURNMENT: Shankar asked if closed captioning for the DVD would be completed in Spanish and Bosnian; he was informed it was decided in English only. He noted he wants to send a letter to Veridian regarding the DVD being completed in other languages. Day asked this be discussed at the 3/3 Education Committee. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm. as motioned by Shehata and seconded by Range.

Submitted by Brenda Balvanz