

Decorah Human Rights Commission Meeting
Tuesday, June 4, 2019

Members present: Melissa Koch, Tiffany Macklin, Chad Bird, Carol Hemesath, Andrew Ellingsen

Members Absent: Lisa Scott, Brent Parker

Meeting was called to order at 5:47 p.m. by Melissa Koch

1. Approval of Meeting Notes from April and May: Motion to approve by Carol, seconded by Andrew.

2. Approval of June Agenda

3. Items needing to be voted on
 - a. Developing online mechanism for reporting Hate Crimes and other incidences.
 - i. Update from Chad was he has been talking to staff and they are working together to make an application form on the website. It will create a database and could be shared with the DHRC and to the police department.
 - ii. Should it be made public?
 - iii. Melissa will talk to Laura Wright about a database system used in Missouri that could be adopted here in Decorah, and would be helpful for local Law Enforcement

Vote to pursue: Andrew moved, Melissa 2nd

- b. Finding a lawyer versed in civil rights who can work with DHRC on discrimination cases.
 - i. City Attorney John Anderson is comfortable with serving as lead and wants to refine the process. He will take the majority of cases, anything heavily serious will be transferred to the Des Moines offices.

- c. Jurisdiction requirements for equity training
 - i. Gordon - contact in mpl for (GHER?) says the Mayor, and City Council can vote to make equity training compulsory due to lack of community support.

- d. Due July 1: Recommendation of 14-19 year old for ACLU award
 - i. Recommended youth is Storm Bar 15. Andrew will write the recommendation.
- 4. Brainstormed suggestions of how to get the community involved in hearing stories of how people of color are mistreated in town in order to bring awareness.
 - a. Put signs in business windows of safety.

Meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.