

Decorah Human Rights Commission Meeting

Special Meeting Location for April:
Convergence Ciderworks
302 Washington St.

Tuesday, April 5, 2022, 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Official meeting began at 6:56 PM

Approval of Meeting Notes from March Meeting

Sandhya moves to approve meetings, Maria seconded it.

Approval of April Agenda

Sandhya moves to approve meetings, Josh seconded it.

Updates on revised ordinance

- City Council approved the revised ordinance.
- Commission needs to post all resources as planned on website
- Update website and brochures to reflect changes made to ordinance
- PR campaign to show what we are going for - something in the Newspaper. Maybe when we get the new members we can introduce them and share what we are working on and what we have been doing since COVID

New DHRC members

- Several community members have expressed interest in joining DHRC including Charlie Langton and Ashley Bensen
- Potential future person to contact: Scott Hurley

Project Ideas

- In person children's events for Day of the Dead, Martin Luther King Jr. event, etc. were well attended. Could have child and adult versions

- Melissa and Sandya read at the Martin Luther King Jr. Speech at Luther College “ Time to Break Silence” A Public Reading
 - Intercultural Development Inventory Training
 - Melissa in past did Implicit Bias Training intro at library
 - Maybe do test case on ourselves? Or with Peace and Justice Center?
 - IDI: <https://www.idiassessment.com/>
 - Berkley - Anti-Racist training
 - Roadblocks: Police - they said they would do it but chief of police came in and there were contentious conversations - new chief of police said they would not do the training. Then after George Floyd was murdered, Luther gave training to the police and they set up a report where people could report any bias they experienced
 - Cultural Events
 - Having events to honor and educate people about different cultures
 - All the nations who have spent time here and their different foods
 - Pronoun Presentation
 - SafeZone Training
 - DHRC - response to the State of Iowa - about transgender sports
 - DHRC should approach Decorah school district and Luther College - ask what are you planning/thinking and go to new superintendent and back them up - idea that they should have a similar kind of letter
 - Sandhya is looking in to see if Luther has released a statement
 - Need to be knowledgeable and federal vs. state laws - understanding what we can do in that piece. Private colleges have more freedom
 - Melissa looking for article about how the trans sports ban is misogynistic
 - Watching what is happening at the state level and responding as DHRC
 - Before We Were White
- May Meeting
 - Outline projects we can work on over the summer and then pitch in the Fall
 - DHRC will not meet formally in June, July, and August.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm