

MEETING MINUTES
Decorah Human Rights Commission Meeting
Decorah Public Library Meeting Room
202 Winnebago Street

To join the meeting via Zoom: <https://nicc.zoom.us/j/4966489551>
Meeting ID: 496 648 9551

Tuesday, June 4, 2024, 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm

The Decorah Human Rights Commission's mission is to increase community awareness and appreciation of human diversity through educational programs, and to provide appropriate remedies where discrimination has been identified.

Call to Order & Welcome

Approval of Meeting Notes from March Meeting

Look over March, April, May, June minutes and let me know by Friday

Approval of May Agenda

Community Comment:

Old Business

Action Items Check-In

- Stickers
 - We can make the stickers smaller to make them more affordable. Buy them for about \$170
- LGBTQ Elder Training
 - Josh will give them more time and check-in during the month of July.
- Summer Projects
 - Dakota Event
 - Dakota will follow back-up
 - Tenant Bill of Rights
 - Dakota will draft a brochure and upload it to the Google Drive to ask for some tweaks about making it more accessible/easier to understand

- Renters Resource on Website
 - Put PDF up on the website
- Annual Report
 - Josh will get started - Maria or Nikki will edit

New Business

- Event Ideas
 - Labor Rights Flyering
 - <https://laborcenter.uiowa.edu/iowa-workers-rights-publications-resources>
 - Human Rights Roundtable Open Discussion?
 - Michelle Boike can put a note in the Tuesday to see if any faculty want to do an event related to Human Rights
- Interested in asking city the steps for requesting a budget
 - Dakota seconds
- Josh - follow up with Travis about Michelle's application
- Human Rights Commission can partner with International Student Orientation to lead a tour of downtown businesses so they can learn about the businesses and feel comfortable going down town
 - This could be one of our yearly tasks

General Human Rights in Iowa:

1. Healthcare Access:
 - How can we improve access to healthcare for rural communities in Iowa?
 - What are the specific challenges faced by marginalized groups in Iowa when it comes to healthcare access?
2. Education Equity:
 - What steps can be taken to ensure all students in Iowa have equal access to quality education?
 - How does funding disparity between urban and rural schools in Iowa affect educational outcomes?
3. LGBTQ+ Rights:
 - What are the current challenges faced by the LGBTQ+ community in Iowa?
 - How can we create more inclusive and supportive environments for LGBTQ+ individuals in our schools and workplaces?
4. Immigration and Refugee Support:

- What are the main obstacles that immigrants and refugees face in Iowa?
 - How can communities in Iowa better support the integration and well-being of immigrant and refugee populations?
5. Racial Inequality:
- What are some effective strategies for combating racial discrimination in Iowa?
 - How can we address the systemic issues that contribute to racial disparities in housing, employment, and policing in Iowa?

Human Rights in Decorah, Iowa:

1. Community Inclusivity:
 - How inclusive is Decorah for people of diverse backgrounds (race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality)?
 - What initiatives could Decorah implement to foster a more inclusive community?
2. Economic Inequality:
 - What are the main economic challenges facing residents of Decorah?
 - How can local businesses and the city government work together to reduce economic inequality?
3. Environmental Justice:
 - What environmental issues are most pressing in Decorah, and how do they impact human rights?
 - How can Decorah balance economic development with environmental sustainability to ensure the rights of future generations?
4. Indigenous Rights:
 - How can Decorah honor and support the rights and cultural heritage of indigenous communities in the area?
 - What educational programs or partnerships could be established to increase awareness and respect for indigenous rights in Decorah?
5. Support for Vulnerable Populations:
 - How can Decorah better support its elderly, disabled, and economically disadvantaged populations?
 - What resources or programs are currently available in Decorah, and what gaps need to be addressed?

Adjourn

Josh motions to Adjourn

Dakota seconds

Josh will send out Rusty Rules meeting