

**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, September 3, 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**

Members in attendance: Josh, Michelle, Nikki, Maria, and community member, Herbet Hageman

**Approval of Meeting Notes from July Meeting**

Josh motions to approve, Maria seconds, vote passed

**Approval of August and September Agenda**

Josh motions to approve, Sandhya seconds vote passed

Josh motions to approve, Nikki seconds, vote passed

**Community Comment:**

Herbert is just here to observe as he is considering joining the commission.

**Old Business**

- LGBTQ Elder Training
  - Josh motions to table, Sandhya seconds, vote passed to table
- LGBT Pride History Event
  - Mark your calendars: Tuesday, October 8th at Pulpit Event Room at 6 PM
- Summer Events
  - Tenant Bill of Rights
  - Renters Resource on Website
    - Josh motions to contact Dakota about library event, Maria seconds, vote passed

- Maria motions to contact Zach about library event, Nikki seconds, vote passed
- Annual Report
  - Sandhya will edit the annual report - vote passed

### **New Business**

- Consider amending February 2023 minutes
  - Josh motions, Sandhya seconds, all approved
- CIES Orientation Reflection
  - Michelle: Likes partnership with farmers market, overestimated time to walk down there (took less time), hot weather and waiting for the group was difficult for students. In the future, would want to make it more compact - tighten up the time.
  - Community resources conversation on Friday went well, Sandhya was recognized by other students
    - Sandhya found it impactful to be on the panel
      - Mayor, Chief of Police, Seed Savers Representative, Staff that works with alumni were present on the panel.  
Cumulative sense of welcome - was a great addition to international student orientation
  - Improvements for next year: Set time for the tours, clarity on if they could go into businesses, tell students to bring umbrellas to get some shade. Could do tour first and then end at the farmers market
    - Sandhya suggests that we could meet at the county courthouse as the starting point of the tour since many of them won't go in that building. Students were also interested in going to the library. Also good to point out ArtHaus. Nikki's group was interested in the murals around town as well.
    - Michelle put out a survey, will let us know if anything is reported about the tour.
- DHRC email
  - Information shared
  - Maria and Michelle would like their emails removed
    - Josh will reach out to the city removed
- Human Rights Roundtable
  - Michelle: Like the idea of changing this to a station of different topics. Community members move around to different "stations" to talk about different human rights perspectives. We could have smaller groups for different areas. Change to more of an educational event rather than a discussion. Framing it more as learning what human rights means or learning about what rights the DHRC covers.

- Members like this idea. Food and drink could also draw people in.
  - Sandhya brought UN affiliated information about human rights that might be relevant
- Budget
  - Email Review
    - Josh motions to ask all members to review email and give feedback before the next meeting. Sandhya seconds. All approved.
  - Stickers
    - Tabled
- Future Leadership
  - Josh is asking others to consider being chair in February
  - Josh is also requesting a note taker

### **Adjourn**

Josh motions to adjourn, Nikki seconds, all approved.