



MINUTES
HUTCHINSON HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
Wednesday, July 20, 2016 – Council Conference Rm

1. **Call to Order** – Present: David Dove, J.W. Martin, Jr., Olivia Martinez, Natasha Russell, Mike Sullivan (V. Chair) and Meryl Dye (staff liaison). Absent: Chris Givan (Chair).
2. **Oral Communications from the Audience** – No audience.
3. **Minutes** – Dove made a motion to approve the minutes of August 17, 2016. Martinez seconded the motion and the motion passed.
4. **Reports** – Dye reported there are **3 vacancies**. Applications from the applicant bank were reviewed. Sullivan asked that applicants be invited to attend the next meeting for an introduction and interview. Russell asked for public announcement to recruit additional applications. The attendance report was also reviewed along with a summary report of informal complaints. There were no informal complaint reports in August.
5. **Unfinished Business** – Natasha Russell provided an overview of a training program available to businesses, schools, government and community groups. Available **Equity and Inclusion Workshops** is provided through a partnership of the Center for Assessment and Policy Develop, MP Associates and the World Trust Education Services. The curriculum entitled **“Transforming White Privilege”** is a 2-day program with 20 modules that includes large group discussion, small group exercises, articles, videos, surveys and evaluation tools. Cost for the program is in tiers with a government rate of \$500. An on-site trainer is provided. Dye will send HHRC members a link to the website to view the curriculum and training tools for future review. Discussion was had about collaborating with other groups, particularly HCC and/or ESSDACK. Dye will make contact with these groups.
6. **New Business** – none.
7. **Communications** – Discussion ensued when Russell expressed concern over the rising number of incidences nationally and statewide suggesting a **growing racist climate**. She cited recent incidents on college campuses including Bethany College and the denial of an African American male to use a restroom at a Lyons business. Members discussed possibly bringing back to Hutchinson the theatre troupe presentation of **“Faces of America”** and working with other groups to participate in the sponsorship costs. Dye provided tickets to the local **NAACP Annual Freedom Fund Banquet** and Awards planned for October 8th at Stringer Fine Arts Center.
8. **Adjournment** – Martinez made a motion to adjourn, and Dove seconded the motion for adjournment.

Minutes Prepared by Meryl Dye, Assistant City Manager (Staff Liaison)

Next Meeting – October 19, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Conf. Room