



MINUTES
HUTCHINSON HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
Wednesday, May 16, 2018 – Council Conference Room

1. **Call to Order** – Present: Joe Allen, David Dove (Chair), Jerome Kahn, Olivia Martinez, Carrie Myer, Kalene Nisly, Natasha Russell-Iverson, Mike Sullivan and Sue Wray (V. Chair). Meryl Dye (Staff Liaison) was also present.
2. **Oral Communications by Audience** – Mayor Steve Dechant was in the audience. He said more diversity is needed in the membership of the City’s board and commissions. He asked for help from the HHRC members to spread the word about the boards and commissions to family and friends. Dye said citizens can complete a form to be placed into the Applicant Bank used by staff liaisons when filling vacancies. She said the city has a diversity policy regarding board appointments that is now included on the city’s webpage on boards. Some boards require special expertise for some positions, but every board has at-large positions that don’t require special knowledge or experience.
3. **Election of Officers** – Chair David Dove opened nominations for Chairperson. Sullivan nominated Jerome Kahn, Joe Allen nominated Sue Wray, and Sue Wray nominated Carrie Myer. Sullivan made a motion to cease nominations, and Kahn seconded the motion which passed. Wray and Myer declined their nominations. With a show of hands, Kahn was elected to Chairperson with seven votes in favor. Dove opened nominations for Vice Chairperson. Wray nominated Nisly, Kahn nominated Allen, and Sullivan nominated Wray. Sullivan made a motion to cease nominations, and Nisly seconded the motion which passed. Nisly and Allen declined their nominations. With a show of hands, Wray was elected to Vice Chair with eight votes in favor. Kahn chaired the remainder of the meeting.
4. **Minutes** –Russell-Iverson made a motion to approve the minutes of April 18, 2018. Nisly seconded the motion and motion passed.
5. **Reports**
 - A. Attendance Record - Dye said attendance is in compliance with the attendance rule. The report did not print out entirely, so Dye will send a corrected report.
 - B. Informal Complaint Report – None for April.
6. **Unfinished Business** –
 - A. Community Conversations - HHRC members discussed continuing with the topic of race in the community conversations series. Dye suggested the next conversation could involve small group discussions at tables which would be shared with the larger group. She shared a short listing of topics or key discussion pieces, and then showed several brief videos on various topics of race, including institutional racism and white privilege. Kahn said a short

video leading into the topic would work well for small group discussions. Wray suggested making the conversation about institutional racism. Kahn agreed with Wray, stating the topic will be a real break-through for many people. Dove stressed needing to keep the video to 3-5 minutes, or risk losing audience attention. Nisly suggested obtaining the curriculum on “Unlearning Racism” as referenced in one short video. Martinez asked if “Walking While Black” is no longer an option for viewing with the public. Wray said the NAACP has already showed the video to the public in February. Allen suggested the Community Conversation would be a good time to tell citizens about City board openings. Members asked for a work session to plan details before the next HHRC meeting, and said all HHRC members should be invited.

- B. Martinez asked about comments by Paul Waggoner at last month’s meeting. Dove said Waggoner made no comments, but his concerns about the February Community Conversation handout as expressed at an earlier meeting were addressed and reported in the April 18th minutes. There was no other unfinished business.
- C. **New Business** – None.
- D. **Communications and Comments** – None.
- E. **Adjournment** – Nisly made a motion to adjourn. Russell-Iverson seconded the motion that passed.

Minutes prepared by Meryl Dye, Staff Liaison.

Next Meeting: June 20, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. – Council Conference Room