

HUTCHINSON Human Relations COMMISSION

MINUTES HUTCHINSON HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION Wednesday, March 17, 2021 Zoom Call Meeting

1. **Call to Order** – Present: Russell-Iverson, Frischenmeyer, Juma, Sotelo-Holguin, Armstrong, Grissom. (Absent: Smith)
2. **Oral Communications by Audience**
 - Sarah Blake, Hutchinson Community Foundation (HCF), congratulated Dave Sotelo for being hired as the new Human Relations Officer for the City of Hutchinson. Sarah expressed that HCF is excited to work with Dave.
3. **Approval of Minutes**
 - **Motion to approve minutes from February 17, 2021 with correction striking section 7, accidental copy and paste.** Motioned by Russell-Iverson, Grissom seconds. Passes unanimously.
4. **New Business**
 - None
5. **HRO Report**
 - HRO Sotelo confirms his hiring as the Human Relations Officer for the City of Hutchinson with start day as April 12, 2021. He informed that this would lead to his spot in the commission to expire. Sotelo will look at applicants and invite them to the April HRC meeting.
 - Sotelo also informed the commission that he is working with the Reno County Health Department to ensure equity in COVID-19 distribution. Currently, the number of Black and Latinx residents vaccinated was significantly less than non-Hispanic White residents.
6. **Communications and Comments**
 - Commissioner Grissom informed the commission of Hutchinson Youth Commission. There was shared concern among Youth Commissioners because they were advised they were not receiving any funds to operate and they don't believe the city is continuing to support their efforts. HRO Sotelo committed to help the commissioners once he starts his full-time employment.
 - Chairperson Russell-Iverson encouraged HRO Sotelo to get in touch with the community relations office with the US Department of Justice.

- Chairperson Russell-Iverson also informed the commission that the COVID-19 Community Conversations event was still being planned. The HRC voted to be a partner for the event at the March meeting.

7. **Adjournment-** Motioned by Russell-Iverson, Seconded by Cowser. Passes Unanimously

Next Meeting: April 21, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.