

## June 8, 2023, Human Rights Commission - Minutes

1. Call to Order – 5:00p
2. Roll Call
  - a. Commissioner Berkenes - Present
  - b. Commissioner Cole-Duvall - Present
  - c. Commissioner Crosser – Present (ZOOM)
  - d. Commissioner Morgan - Present
  - e. Commissioner Zanders – Present
  - f. Council Hardman - Absent
3. Approval of May 2023 Meeting minutes – Milton moved; Zanders seconded
4. Opportunity for Public to Address the Commission (5 min per Community member)
  - a. MJ Hoag - 413 2<sup>nd</sup> St. addressed the Commission regarding sex segregated bathrooms. MJ is actively pursuing gender neutral bathrooms & will be expressing this to the City Council.
  - b. Al Womble – Presented an event for Tuesday, Sept 19 “National Voter Registration Day” with a website that provides material [www.nonprofitvote.org](http://www.nonprofitvote.org) Al is informing the Commission & asking for participation. Al would also be partnering with Hola America, Black Iowa News, & Urban Impact Show.
    - Proposing: Commission start promoting the event by August 19. Help participate and reach out to citizens/youth. Help organize an outreach program in the ward 2 and ward 3 districts.
5. Presenter: DEI Office
  - a. Audrey Kennis, DEI Director for City of West Des Moines presented to the Commission regarding her role with the City and the work her department strives to do for its residents/citizens.
6. Budget Update: Commission discussed material/apparel prices for upcoming events. Milton motioned to wait and see which price is best from the two individual vendors. Jill seconded.
7. New Business:
  - a. Chair Nomination
    - Milton motioned for Tiffany Berkenes to be nominated as chair, seconded by Pierce
    - Milton motion Robert Morgan to be nominated as vice chair, Pierce seconded.
  - b. Funding Request – Des Moines Civil & Human Rights Symposium (July)
    - Received a request for July funding for upcoming event happening in Sept. of 2023. A presentation will be at the July meeting.
  - c. **Youth EX Officio Member**
    - Get report from Aaron G. Table the item until approved by City Council.
8. Old Business: No report
9. Staff Report: No report
10. Council Report: No report
11. Commissioner’s and Sub Committee Report
  - a. Commissioner Berknes & Commissioner Cole-Duvall (Education Sub Committee)
    - Tabled discussion to July
  - b. Commissioner Morgan & Commissioner Crosser (Engage Sub Committee)
    - DiverCity Newsletter was phenomenal

c. Commissioner Zanders (Connect Sub Committee)

- Seconded Jill Crosser statement

12. Milton motioned to adjourn at 6:35pm, Pierce seconded, all ayes.