

CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING

CITY OF DAVENPORT, IOWA

TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2023; 12:00 PM

VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM [HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/84869608008?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84869608008?pwd=MUHUMUNSUNP4WLZNDK9TBXZIMLY1UT09)
PWD=MUHUMUNSUNP4WLZNDK9TBXZIMLY1UT09

AMID CONCERNS ABOUT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY, AS AN ONGOING MITIGATION MEASURE, IN COMPLIANCE WITH CDC RECOMMENDATIONS, THE COMMISSION WILL HOST ITS NEXT MONTHLY MEETING, SCHEDULED FOR JULY 11, 2023 AT NOON THROUGH A VIRTUAL FORMAT. THIS ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN DUE TO SAFETY CONCERNS ASSOCIATED WITH COVID-19. THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS, VISITORS, CUSTOMERS AND OUR STAFF AT THE DAVENPORT CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION IS ALWAYS A TOP PRIORITY. IT IS WITH THIS IN MIND THAT WE HAVE TAKEN THIS STEP TO MITIGATE THE POSSIBILITY OF COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SIGN UP TO ATTEND OUR NEXT MEETING, PLEASE REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR THIS MEETING- YOU WILL FIND THE LINK IN THE AGENDA UNDER ROLL CALL. AFTER REGISTERING, YOU WILL RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION EMAIL CONTAINING INFORMATION ABOUT JOINING THE MEETING.

I. Roll Call

- A. VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84869608008?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84869608008?pwd=MUHuMUNSUnp4WIZndk9tbXZiMIY1UT09)
pwd=MUHuMUNSUnp4WIZndk9tbXZiMIY1UT09

II. Approval of Agenda

III. Approval of Minutes

- A. June 2023 Minutes

IV. Directors Report

- A. June 2023 Director's Report
- B. June 2023 Case Status Report

V. New Business

- A. E-0093-0048-17
- B. PA-0011-0001-17

VI. Old Business

VII. Public Comment and Presentation

VIII. Adjourn

IX. Next Meeting

City of Davenport
Civil Rights Commission

Department:
Contact Info:

Date

Subject:
VIRTUAL VIA ZOOM [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84869608008?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84869608008?pwd=MUhuMUNSunp4WIZndk9tbXZiMIY1UT09)
[pwd=MUhuMUNSunp4WIZndk9tbXZiMIY1UT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84869608008?pwd=MUhuMUNSunp4WIZndk9tbXZiMIY1UT09)

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Civil Rights	Musser, Stephanie	Approved	7/10/2023 - 8:42 AM

City of Davenport
Civil Rights Commission

Department:
Contact Info:

Date

Subject:
June 2023 Minutes

ATTACHMENTS:

Type	Description
▢ Cover Memo	June 2023 Minutes

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Civil Rights	Musser, Stephanie	Approved	7/10/2023 - 9:23 AM

DAVENPORT CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 13, 2023; 12:00 PM

The Davenport Civil Rights Commission (DCRC) met at 12:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 13, 2023, online using Zoom. Commission Chair Michael Guster, presided.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Ethelene Boyd
Michael Guster
Frank Holley
Charlene Upchurch-Taylor
Jeff Transou

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Angela Reyes

OTHER PERSONS PRESENT:

Cody Eliff
Others from the community

AGENDA

Commissioner Guster called for the approval of the agenda to be done by unanimous consent. All Commissioners voted to approve the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Commissioner Boyd, seconded by Commissioner Holley, the minutes of the regular meeting on May 9, 2023, were moved. All Commissioners approved.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

Director Lacey was out of town during today's meeting. Assistant Director Cody Eliff gave the Directors Report today. The Assistant Director stated there were no right to sue letters issued in the month of May, and there were no cases closed in mediation during the month of May. Assistant Director Eliff stated there was a lot of training completed last month. The Assistant Director stated he and the employment investigator attended the ADA symposium and learned of new laws, and they also learned how to use a new device that is used to help them work with the deaf. The Assistant Director stated that the manufacturer of the device was also present at the symposium which was very nice for all who were there. Assistant Director Eliff stated the Director organized and conducted Commission staff training, attended a White Privilege Symposium, completed case processing documentation, and worked on pre-hearing and post-hearing preparation.

Commissioner Guster mentioned the meeting between some Commission members and the City staff had been canceled, and that it would have to be rescheduled at a later time. Commissioner Holley asked about the meeting between the City and Commission to get clarity. Commissioner Guster stated that meeting with the Mayor and City Administrator is with Commissioners Boyd, Transou, and himself. Commissioner Guster stated that the ongoing harassment of the Commission, and the Legal Department refusal to accept a Commission referral would be discussed at that rescheduled meeting with the City. Commissioner Holley asked if Director Lacey was involved with the meetings with the City. Commissioner Guster stated that so far that has not been the case, but that we have discussed maybe doing that in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

Commissioner Guster asked the Commission if there was anything they wanted to add to the agenda for next month's meeting. Commissioner Boyd stated that the Assistant Director had mentioned that Director Lacey had stated that she would like to have a Commissioner attend a HUD meeting in August in Denver. Commissioner Boyd stated that she was able to and would like to attend that meeting. Commissioner Guster stated that since only one Commissioner could attend that maybe it should be someone new on the Commission such as Commissioner Holley. Commissioner Holley then stated he would like to but had a lot of commitments in August and the month looked pretty full for him. Commissioner Guster then asked Commissioner Transou about his schedule. Commissioner Transou asked what the exact dates were. Assistant Director Eliff stated the dates were the 30th and 31st of August. Commissioner Transou stated he could do it but it didn't matter to him who went. Assistant Director Eliff stated he wasn't sure if there was a place for two Commissioners or just one he would have to look into it. Commissioner Upchurch-Taylor asked about the trips like this and if they were announced so someone would have time to see if they could go or not, and if all the particulars were described about the trip that would be coming up. Commissioner Guster stated we should look at Commissioners who haven't had any training on these topics yet. It was decided the Commission would wait to hear more from Director Lacey and also see if two Commissioners can go or not. It was also discussed that other trips would be coming up also for Commissioners to consider.

The Commission briefly discussed the upcoming Juneteenth celebration at the Lincoln Center in Davenport. It was decided that we had already discussed it last month and no one was able to tend to the table that we would have this year. The Commission made a commitment to plan for this celebration better next year. Two Commissioners stated they would be there, but had other tables they were working at and tending to.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Upchurch-Taylor made a motion to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded by Commissioner Boyd. All Commissioners approved the motion to adjourn.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Commission is July 11, 2023, at 12 noon.

Submitted by Jeff Transou, Secretary

City of Davenport
Civil Rights Commission

Department:
Contact Info:

Date

Subject:
June 2023 Director's Report

ATTACHMENTS:

Type	Description
▢ Cover Memo	June 2023 Director's Report

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Civil Rights	Musser, Stephanie	Approved	7/10/2023 - 9:39 AM

DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE DAVENPORT CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION FOR June 2023

I. CASE STATUS

1. One "right to sue" letter was issued in the month of June.
2. Three housing cases closed in the month of June. The first case involved allegations of race, age and disability discrimination and it settled for \$1750.00 and relief in the public interest. The second case involved a post cause resolution, the Complainant received \$12,000.00, and the Commission received \$6,422.13. The third case involved allegations of disability discrimination, this case settled for non-monetary relief, with specific performance for the Complainant and relief in the public interest.

II. OTHER ACTIVITY

1. Director organized community meetings to discuss upcoming outreach and education initiatives.
2. Director completed case processing documentation.
3. Director worked on pre-hearing and post-hearing preparation.
4. Director continued to monitor COVID-19 rates and its impact on office functions.
5. Director worked on case resolution documents.
6. Director worked on litigation.
7. Asst. Director/Housing Programs Manager worked on investigations.
8. Asst. Director/Housing Programs Manager worked on housing investigations.
9. Asst. Director/Housing Programs Manager worked on housing inquiries.
10. Asst. Director/Housing Programs Manager worked on case resolutions.
11. Asst. Director/Housing Programs Manager planned and conducted outreach and engagement activities Protections Under the Law
12. Asst. Director/Housing Programs Manager and Civil Rights Specialist attended ADA Conference
13. Civil Rights Specialist worked on intakes.
14. Civil Rights Specialist worked on case investigations.
15. Civil Rights Specialist worked on case resolutions.

III. OLD BUSINESS

1. Ongoing harassment and bullying of Commission staff.
2. Legal Department refusal to accept Commission referral.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. Upcoming outreach activities.

City of Davenport
Civil Rights Commission

Department:
Contact Info:

Date

Subject:
June 2023 Case Status Report

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Civil Rights	Musser, Stephanie	Approved	7/10/2023 - 10:23 AM

City of Davenport
Civil Rights Commission

Department:
Contact Info:

Date

Subject:
E-0093-0048-17

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Civil Rights	Musser, Stephanie	Approved	7/10/2023 - 9:23 AM

City of Davenport
Civil Rights Commission

Department:
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Date

Subject:
PA-0011-0001-17

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Civil Rights	Musser, Stephanie	Approved	7/10/2023 - 9:23 AM