



STATE OF IOWA

Chester J. Culver , GOVERNOR
Patty Judge , LT. GOVERNOR

IOWA CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

RALPH ROSENBERG
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Iowa Civil Rights Commission Meeting
August 14, 2007 Grimes Office Building
DRAFT minutes

- I. Roll Call —Eychaner; Tutt; Claypool; Gitchell; By phone: Connie Gronstal, Nancy Witt and Rick Morain
- II. Recognition of Public and Press—Dana Boone, *Iowa Independent* web journal and 3 VISTA's—Beckwith; Fath; and Schrader
- III. Iowa Civil Rights Commission ---Approval of June Minutes—Connie and Rich noted need to correct minutes (date for next meeting). Passed by voice vote.
- IV. Consideration of proposed Strategic Priorities for 07-08 (see attached)
 - a. Alicia noted need for support papers
 - b. Rich, Alicia asked about need to meet with leadership
 - c. Rich asked for copy of historical funding and staffing (ed. note: in manual)
 - d. Nancy moved and Rich seconded adoption of revised strategic priority list with Level I, II and monitor only priorities. Passed unanimously by voice vote. Commissioners will work with the Governor's Office to coordinate federal and state policy positions and messages.
- V. Board training—Hard copies of the manual were distributed.
 - a. Commission mission—need to vote on changes in wording
 - b. Rich points out that our mission statement should be independent of any change in the administration
 - i. Connie noted need to vote if mission statement is changed.—Connie moved; Debbie seconded.
 - ii. Unanimously passed on voice vote to amend the mission statement as follows: "*Our mission is enforcing civil rights through compliance, mediation, advocacy, and education as we support safe, just, and inclusive communities.*"
 - c. Chart of areas—double check education
 - d. Ralph went through the manual.
 - e. Tim Tutt volunteered to work with ICRC staff to set up committee to update educational resources over the next year. With access to so many materials available online, the ICRC Library does not need to have paper copies on hand, but does need to expand online linkages.
 - f. Commissioners expressed appreciation to Ralph and Jennifer Fath for all their work to update and prepare the manual.
- VI. Commissioners' Reports and Subcommittee Reports
Due to time constraints, Commissioners were asked to send in their reports to Rosenberg.
- VII. Executive Director's Report—
 - a. Staff – Rosenberg introduced the 3 VISTAs: Jennifer Fath whose term expires in Nov., and Crystal Schrader and Jacob Beckwith who just started yesterday.
 - b. 3 investigator positions to be filled --- received 189 applications.
 - c. Budget due tomorrow to Dept of Mgt. . Submit with addendum for additional funds.
 - d. Federal budget implications – Expect deep cuts, especially from EEOC in FY 08. The additional \$250,000 received from the state for FY 08 will help to prevent layoffs.

- VIII. Old Business
 - a. Running out of space. Very cramped in current space. Rosenberg is working with DAS to address this problem.
 - b. Rosenberg will send copies of IASB training materials from safe schools training of May 07..

- IX. New Business
 - a. Celebrations Committee - Nancy Witt and Debbie Gitchell volunteered to work on celebration of several civil rights milestones during the next year: MLK speech at Grinnell in Oct., ??? can't remember the other events. Please fill in

- X. Issue assignments:. First drafts due Oct. 1 to Rosenberg.
 - Immigration related papers—Alicia and Crystal (VISTA)
 - Disability—Nancy, state and federal issues
 - Funding--RR
 - Filing deadline--RR
 - Subpoena Power -
 - Racial Profiling --DPS--RR
 - Hate Crimes--state and federal laws —Debbie
 - Predatory Lending—use other groups' papers—Nancy
 - Rich—federal --don't ask/don't tell; ENDA (federal anti discrimination bill)
 - Pay discrimination ---Ledbetter --Rick
 - Gov. Task Force on Race – monitor only, Rick
 - Marriage Equality – monitor only, Tim

- XI. Next Meeting Date and Location-----Oct. 25th, 3:30 – 5:00 pm, Des Moines.

- XII. Adjournment