



STATE OF IOWA

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

IOWA CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION
RALPH ROSENBERG
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DRAFT Minutes Iowa Civil Rights Commission Thursday March 27, 2008 Meeting

- I. Roll Call—Eychaner; Gitchell; Claypool; Gronstal; Witt and Morain (on phone)
- II. Recognition of Public and Press – Dana Boone
- III. Iowa Civil Rights Commission ---Approval of Feb Minutes, as amended; Connie moved and Nancy seconded—approved by voice vote;
- IV. Commissioners' Reports and Subcommittee Reports
 - Commissioner Alicia Claypool— lobbying on 300 day and subpoena bills; also works on immigration education coalition—full report to be sent later.
 - Commissioner Debbie Gitchell— Immigration 101 training;
 - Commissioner Rich Eychaner — attended and praised the 101 training; 3/14 Burlington; positive press in Burlington ; Urbandale passed ordinance;
 - Commissioner Connie Gronstal— 3/16 forum in CB on diversity on SO-GI code; ordinance passed CB
 - Commissioner Rick Morain – FYI—appreciate notices on bills; noted Prof. Bill Russell' book on homosexual saints--
 - Commissioner Nancy Witt – written thank you's to legislators; intends to attend Diversity Advocacy day.
- V. Hate comments by public officials—should the Commission take a position, if so, what should that position be, and how and to whom should it be communicated.
 1. Nancy—how do we use resources? Do we use resources on this response? As individuals perhaps we can respond, but whether as Commission? Nancy noted how he has said hateful things towards on other groups.
 2. Rich—difference in comments between King's comments and others comments which have been more direct attacks, more personal on a category of people—perhaps the approach should be to affirm civility in comments; endorse healthy debate, without people being disrespectful;
 3. Debbie—is this a slap on Islamic names?
 4. Rick—Doug Burns, Carroll paper, collects essays—free speech concerns; solution with voters, not statements by us
 5. No vote was taken.
- VI. Report by Ralph
 1. shared thank you's from Burlington
 2. League efforts—
 - i. Newsletter
 - ii. Expansion into..
 - iii. VISTA Summer associates
 3. Policy work—SF199;
 4. Testing in Waterloo on family status
 5. Testing statewide on ads
 - i. Previously testing on disability, National Origin, race
 6. Fighting battles in implementation of safe schools (
 7. SO-GI –training with SHRM; DHR; Drake law

8. legal counsel's office to update state agency AA/EO
9. EEOC outreach

VII. Next Meetings-- Still Hold

1. Thursday, May 15—(try to coordinate with League meeting)
2. July (around Edna Griffin celebration)
3. August 7 or 14
4. Oct. 16th

VIII. June 6th Shephard dinner

IX. Adjournment

Grimes State Office Building, 400 E. 14th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50309 –1858
515 281-4121 / 1-800-457-4416 / Fax 515-242-5840
<http://www.state.ia.us/government/crc>