

Utah Martin Luther King, Jr. Human Rights Commission
Triad Center
Wednesday, May 4, 2016

MLK Attendees: Adrienne Andrews, Dr. Forrest Crawford, Dr. Rob Harter, Dr. Karen Johnson, Carla Kelley, Jasen Lee, Beth Martial, Shawn Newell, Eddy Thompson

Excused: Luis Garza, Ed Napia, Lavinia Taumoepeau-Latu

Unexcused: Robert Rendon

Guests: Rozanna Benally-Sagg, Anna Decker, Jenny Hor, Kathy Kinsman, Josh Loftin, Amber Lowder, Brian Somers, LaDawn Stoddard

Welcome – Dr. Rob Harter

Dr. Rob Harter welcomed attendees to the meeting. Commission members and guests introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Shawn Newell motioned to approve the minutes from April 6, 2016. Adrienne Andrews seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Disclosure Statement – Kathy Kinsman

Under the Utah Public Employee's Ethics Act, certain provisions require public officers to disclose any potential conflicts in their personal or business affiliations that might have some bearing on their role as a commission member. Previously, all commission members were required to sign a disclosure statement upon appointment even if no conflicts existed. The policy has been updated and commission members are only required to sign a disclosure statement if they have conflicts to disclose.

Commission members must disclose:

- holding a substantial interest exceeding \$2,000 in value in business entities, which are subject to regulation by the Department of Heritage and Arts (this is highly unlikely as DHA is not a regulatory agency);
- receiving personal compensation, loans, or gifts from a person or business entity providing business for the commission; and
- receiving personal compensation in respect to a transaction between state agencies and a business entity in which the commission member is part of said business.

The commission also needs to schedule trainings for the Utah Open and Public Meetings Act and Utah Public Officers' and Employees' Ethics Act with the Attorney General's Office.

Special Group License Plate – Amber Lowder

The Utah State Legislature approved the Martin Luther King, Jr. Civil Rights Support special group license plate in 2012.

The Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) processes and distributes the plates once 500 applications and the associated fees are collected. Applicants must have a valid Utah vehicle registration. The Department of Heritage and Arts is responsible for collecting the funds. The commission receives a \$35 annual contribution from each plate, which is deposited into the Martin Luther King, Jr. Civil Rights Support Restricted Account.

The following is a breakdown of the required funds from each application:

- \$ 11.00 Special Plate Fee
- 5.00 Registration and Decal Replacement
- 4.00 Postage
- 35.00 Initial Contribution
- 55.00 Total Amount Due with Application

In addition to collecting funds from each applicant, an initial set-up fee is required. This is to allow for system changes. The fee has a fixed cost and a variable cost. The fixed cost is a onetime fee of \$3,900. The variable cost is dependent on the number of plates and number of decal colors ordered.

A standard license plate has a slogan and a symbol. A symbol can have up to five colors and is 3 7/8" high by 3 1/4" wide. A slogan can have up to three colors and is 5/8" high by 6 1/2" wide. No charges are added for the use of white as it will be processed as clear in production.

In order to stock the plates at all DMV offices statewide, 2,500 sets must be ordered. If less than 2,500 sets are ordered, plates may be purchased at any DMV but will be mailed to each customer.

Once the DMV receives 500 applications and all payments, the design process formally begins. The DMV has six months to issue the plates to the public. To help expedite the process, it is recommended to provide a spreadsheet of all applicants including their first and last names, current plate numbers, and plate expiration date.

Utah Commission on Service and Volunteerism – LaDawn Stoddard & Anna Decker

The Utah Commission on Service and Volunteerism (UServeUtah) is a state agency focused on encouraging residents to volunteer. They do not offer teams of volunteers to lend support to projects.

UServeUtah focuses on three areas.

- National Service: UServeUtah manages the AmeriCorps program in Utah.
- Community Engagement: UServeUtah offers support to community organizations and businesses who work with volunteers.
 - UServeUtah provides trainings on how to effectively utilize volunteers.
 - The Summer of Service program offers youth the opportunity to win prizes for their volunteerism during the summer months.
 - UServeUtah offers recognition certificates to organizations or individuals who want to highlight the work of a volunteer on a long-term project. The certificate is signed by Lt. Governor Spencer Cox.
- Disaster Services: UServeUtah coordinates volunteers for disaster services.

UServeUtah offers approximately \$1,000 for each recipient of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service grant. Two of the recipients included the University of Utah and Weber State University. Both institutions host annual service projects in honor of Dr. King.

A partnership with Weber State University would require a sustained commitment from commission members to attend the MLK Week of Service events. As Adrienne Andrews and Dr. Forrest Crawford are employees of Weber State University, their association with the institution makes it difficult for others to view them as part of another organization, which makes it important for other commission members to be present and to serve as commission representatives. Commission members also discussed attending events at other institutions to increase the visibility of the commission.

Local organizations host smaller service projects on MLK Day such as the Wasatch Community Gardens. Commission members can contact these organizations about speaking engagements. A federal database lists volunteer projects happening on MLK Day and is available at allforgood.org.

Commission members were asked to provide a list of MLK Day service projects at the next meeting.

Other Business

Adrienne Andrews and Beth Martial hosted a King Conversation Series at Weber State University on April 19. The event focused on refugee resettlement in Ogden and featured Gerald Brown, Fatima Dirie, and Dr. Jennifer Gnagey as panelists. Community members engaged in conversations on how they can offer assistance to refugees such as providing housing.

Equality Utah is hosting a celebration for Harvey Milk Boulevard on May 14. The event is held from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM and is open to the public. The Salt Lake City Council adopted a resolution renaming a portion of 900 South in Harvey Milk's honor.

The ACLU of Utah Bill of Rights Breakfast Celebration is held on May 20 at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center from 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM. Dr. Forrest Crawford is serving as a table captain.

The NAACP Salt Lake Branch is participating in voter registration drives. The commission and the Department of Heritage and Arts have the opportunity to partner with the NAACP on this project.

Weber State University is hosting Juneteenth celebrations on June 17 and June 18. The Utah State Legislature passed a bill observing Juneteenth as a state holiday during the 2016 session.

Adjourn

MOTION: Adrienne Andrews motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jasen Lee seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Action Items

The next MLK Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 1, 2016 from 10:00 to 11:30 AM at the Chase Home Museum.

Upcoming Meetings (first Wednesdays of every month in the Rio Board Room):

July 6

August 3

September 7

October 5

November 2

December 7