

Human Rights Council Meeting
Room #208, Lucas Building
July 13, 2009, 9:00am

Present: Kathryn Baumann-Reese, Acting Chair, Joan Moll, Abraham Funchess, Jill Filitano Avery, Rachel Scott, Melissa Esquivel, and Cyndi Chen. Visitors: Senator Jack Hatch, WOW Reporter Richard Lee
Absent: Director Preston Daniels, Bill Brand, Paul Stageberg
Minutes were taken by Dottie Schiltz, recording secretary.

1. The meeting was called to order by Kathryn Baumann-Reese at 9:00 am. A quorum was present.
2. Jill Filitano Avery moved approval of the Agenda, Abraham Funchess seconded, and motion carried.
3. Rachel Scott moved approval of the June 8, 2009, minutes, Cyndi Chen seconded, Minutes approved.
4. Guest Presenter – Senator Jack Hatch, on the Health Care Coverage Commission
Introductions were made by Division Administrators. Senator Hatch discussed the recent efforts and future objectives that are being worked to implement Healthcare Availability to all. He cited the need for a competent approach to getting the product to the people who need it, how to recognize where the need is, and how to get the providers reimbursed for their services. Great strides have been recognized in getting certain identifiers on tax forms; i.e., number of children with insurance. From the onset, more children have been identified than expected. As of two years ago, an estimated 50,000 were not covered, last year 35,000 were taken care of, by 2010, expect to take care of the other 15,000. Through the “Medical Home” plan everyone will be able to choose a provider, who would be responsible to coordinate any care a person would be required to need from immunizations to colonoscopies and/or mammograms. There are nine such set-ups already in the state. A query regarding rural settings to urban settings being at a disadvantage was presented by Abraham Funchess. Urban areas have in some areas as much disadvantage from low mortality rates and unemployment issues. May be some challenges for rural areas but delivery system out there. Concern expressed by Scott noting that health care and minority issues have done great job to reach out to stake holders outside, but need there is a need to reach out to those in state government. Information from Cyndi Chen regarding community town meeting to be held in Sioux City area next week, to inform and reach out to many in disparity situations. Senator Hatch noted that recently legal immigrant children no longer have to wait five years to get medical assistance. However, undocumented immigrant children are still faced with this problem. Senator Hatch continued to discuss the three-year planning stage for this program which is now going into the third year to put it into play. He shared his recent visit to Algeria and experience with a query regarding comparing U.S. Medical Coverage to other countries, which put him on a spot to admit that our current health programs do not cover all and are in need of reform. With that, a greater commitment has been developed to get more engaged towards this effort, nationally as well as statewide. The US takes the lead in great medical research, great prescription plans, and great experimental procedures, but lacks in medical insurance coverage. A commission group is being developed to implement the program. He explained that they will need to seek the appropriate information and in discussion with Mr. Daniels, believes DHR is the best place to get the information out, and to provide the assistance in spearheading the data required to implement everything properly. The more information instilled to the public that the program is aimed at providing a health program for all the faster the program can be realized the better. Along with Funchess noting a partnership between DNR and other organizations to have integrated symposiums to discuss or provide this information. Senator Hatch announced that Dr. David Carlisle, Ames, IA, has been invited to be part of the mission to get information, collect the data, and hire the staff from the money that has been appropriated for that purpose. Iowa serves as the great laboratory base to organize and develop a plan that could be used nationally. Another concern expressed by Scott was to include the College of Student Aid Commission; so they could be connected some way; and, to keep in mind of how many cases we may well not even be aware of, for example, younger girls with post-natal depression. Although coordination with social agencies and churches would get the information out there, sometimes is not communicated well. Technology has increased communication great deal. Kathryn Baumann-Reese queried if mental health issues would fall under this as well. Hatch responded that those areas would be added in as we need to. Hopefully, with Medical Home the provider would determine just to send to counselor and the stress of going to a current primary care provider untrained in psychology would enhance that medical care. Again, Senator Hatch expressed the need to engage DHR services for data and information, and anxiously embraces the challenge to get the commission started. In comparison, he noted Senator Grassley’s Iowa Core program which although it does not provide prescription drugs, it does provide a sample to expand or build on. He foresees at least someone from DHR to be on the commission. Ideas and comments are welcome. Rachel Scott shared information on grants that may take care of some of the concerns. Senator Hatch also confirmed that Ted Williams would be Vice Chair with whom he has scheduled a meeting, to discuss how DHR works in. Ted Williams chaired the Targeted Small Business Task Force and is excellent selection for this endeavor. Dr. Carlisle being involved with this sort of thing for years will also be serving as an excellent selection. Contact for Senator Hatch is jack@hatchdevelopment.com or Chris Bell. Anyone with ideas, concerns, and suggestions should submit them.

5. Budget Update - Joan Moll

- Joan announced that SFY 09 is being closed out; the final deadline for SFY 09 claims is August 28. Everyone is strongly encouraged to submit expense claims as early as possible. A reminder made for those employees who have travel claims that overlap two fiscal years, i.e. trips that begin in June and end in July. Moll suggested that two original, separate travel claim forms be submitted for processing. An original is needed for each year.
- The SFY2010 has just begun; there may be additional budget reductions this year.
- Also, the divisions soon will be preparing budget requests for SFY2011. As required by the Iowa Code, these must be submitted by October 1.

6. Strategic Planning Update

- Rachel Scott provided information regarding upcoming scheduled meetings. 1) Commission Meeting on Wednesday, 1:00 – 2:00, with reception to naming rooms in Dept of Public Safety; 2) July 30-31 will be the Strategic Planning meeting, Scott will work with Chen to get survey responses and top ten priorities coordinated to give Cynthia Axne something to work with for the committee involvement.
- Committee Involvement and Top Ten Priorities List –Top 10 Priorities handout summarizing each divisions inputs provided by Baumann-Reese. Three page detailed listed was summarized down to one page subjective areas, and how many divisions had same subjective priority. Objective is to see what areas we could better assist each other and work together.
- Strategic Planning Meeting scheduled for July 30-31, to be held in Public Safety Building, 8:30-4:00. Contact your own division's reps to attend. Lunch on your own with separate receipts. Shareholder feedback on surveys is done. Preparation needed for Cynthia Axne will include: 1) Priority List, 2) Stakeholders Survey Results, 3) Pre-Work Survey, 4) Any Other Documents Feel Needed – Core Functions (Esquivel)
- Esquivel provided clarification of Vista Intern Employees. Two types – 1) Summer hire type for short term, and 2) Full Year Program; CJJP – 1 Full Year, 1 Short; CAA – 1 Summer, 1 Full Year; Latino – 2 Full; Steve Michael directed to act as point of contact for VISTA interns. Provides coordination over what is going on or being done.
- Abraham Funchess noted clarification on meeting set up for upcoming diversity meeting. Meeting was scheduled to be held in his church area. Concern noted by Governor, who would approve meeting location to be anywhere as long as it would not appear self-serving to anyone in particular.
- Also, asked opinion on Des Moines Register article to be submitted; query existed as to whether the article would be from Abraham's capacity in DHR or his capacity in the church.
- Abraham noted the Disparity Davenport Study which results will be presented at meetings to be held next week in Waterloo and Des Moines.
- Alexander Clark Movie Development is another issue that plays a role in Iowa history. Activities for Martin Luther King Day will include the Alexander Clark Movie Development. Information regarding these activities will be introduced at symposiums and more workshops that DHR and Civil Rights will work together.
- Kathryn Baumann-Reese clarified lobbying roles served by Executive Branch lobbying or lobbying for a cause. Every division director encouraged to register as a lobbyist. Whenever someone goes to another branch agency to change rules, takes executive lobbying action. Registration is an annual requirement. Bill, Paul and Preston may be exempt from having to register.
- Kathryn also reported that a request had been made to tech support to allow scheduling capability of the "Eleanor Conference Room" by anyone through the computer system. System would allow an email to reserve and automatically set the scheduled time. Will also work to cancel a scheduled time if necessary also. Consensus of group was welcomed to get this started.

7. Division Updates

Status of Women

- Meeting scheduled at City Hall, West Des Moines, Wednesday, July 15, at 4:30, regarding recruiting for women to serve on local boards and commissions.
- Monday afternoon meeting with Work Force Development leadership on a self-funded family insurance program.

Status of African Americans

- Meeting with Des Moines Register on Diversity on Tuesday.
- Iowa Commission on the Status of African Americans will present Davenport Disparity Study in Waterloo, IA, at the Talk Shop Café, on Thursday, July 23. All recommendations work to create opportunities for persons who have been shut out of the industry. Results could be in millions. City of Davenport applauded for taking critical step toward closing disparity gaps.
- Friday, July 24, another forum on disparity being scheduled at a place to be determined.

Persons with Disabilities

- Jill Avery congratulated Melissa Esquivel for receiving her Master's Degree. Jill will be out of the office two days for SSA training. Also, running Youth Leadership Forum as we speak, had 31 kids sign up (3 didn't show) large turnout. Next week go into CLF.

Deaf Services

- Kathryn Baumann-Reese will be out of the office next week. She noted the next Commission Meeting is scheduled for August 15. They are gearing up for that meeting.

Latino Affairs

- Melissa Esquivel announced she will have 2 VISTA volunteers coming in. She queried assistance for housing information for the one VISTA worker from Washington State. One will focus on Iowa Youth Congress and the other will do outreach. Also, noted that Steve Michael is point of contact for the VISTA workers. She commented that the presentation she provided was well received and one of best she has experienced. Acquired interesting knowledge on how the money gets spent, providing an opportunity to know what to use it for.
- There are nine new Latino Commissioners - four are renewed appointments (Sal, Paula, Sylvia and Philipe) others are new. Concerns regarding retention times and commission lengths being the same voiced. Chair person has not rotated much. Request made for new active, comfortable individual. First meeting of new commission is when vote is made to designate Chair. Strategic planning was put on hold until will be set for commission meeting to get strategic planning going again.
- Major issue in Mason City, which appeared to be possible racial profiling issue, was concern over amount of Meth coming in from Canada.

Asian and Pacific Islanders

- Des Moines Register requested meeting with Status of African Americans, Latino Affairs, and CAPI for their outreach efforts on July 14th. Those who will attend are Henney, Funchess, Esquivel, and Chen.
- Grant received for \$2,000+ for 2010 Census outreach.
- 2010 Census outreach meeting scheduled on July 15 with Community Leaders.
- CAPI will have another town meeting on 26th in Sioux City area.
- Wednesday 15th, will have seven Taiwanese youth visiting from their respective political divisions.

Adjourned at 10:55

NEXT MEETING: August 10, 2009, Room 208

Submitted by
Dottie Schiltz, Recording Secretary