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Exceptional Service*

Memo

Mayor's Office

TO: Members of the City Council

FROM: Ann H. Campbell, Mayor *alc*

DATE: December 18, 2009

SUBJECT: Appointment to Fill Vacancy on Human Relations Commission

Robyn Cooper, member of the Human Relations Commission, has submitted her resignation from the Commission. Since Robyn's term of office does not expire until April 1, 2012, an appointment needs to be made to fill this vacancy.

Therefore, I request that the City Council approve the appointment of Adam Cotton to fill the unexpired term of office on the Human Relations Commission.

AHC/jlr

Attachments

From: Cooper, Robyn M [RISE] <robynj@iastate.edu>

To: bobanncamp@aol.com

Cc: Sheila K Lundt <SLundt@city.ames.ia.us>; asfultz@earthlink.net; amberc@amesbank.com; akinzel@mac.com; MaryJoMattila@aol.com; Bronwyn Beatty-Hansen <bronwynbh@gmail.com>; Owen, Thomas J <tjowen@iastate.edu>

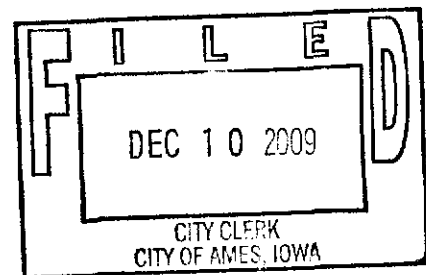
Subject: AHRC Commission Resignation

Date: Wed, Dec 9, 2009 4:06 pm

Dear Mayor Campbell,

I am currently serving on the Ames Human Relations Commission. In January, I will be moving to Boone. I understand that this negates my eligibility to serve as an AHRC commissioner and in turn means I must resign my seat on the commission. Please accept this e-mail as my formal resignation. I'd like to say thank you to you and the city council, Sheila Lundt, and my fellow commissioners for this wonderful experience. I've thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to participate on the committee and serve my community.

Best wishes!
Robyn Cooper





<web@winningit.com>

10/01/2009 09:57 PM

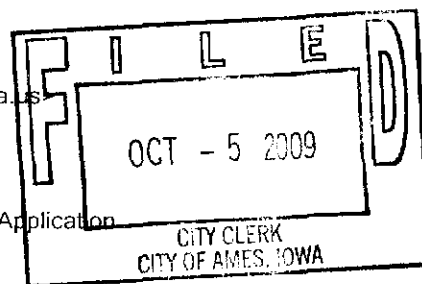
Please respond to
siradamcotton@gmail.com

To <jripperger@city.ames.ia.us>

cc

bcc

Subject Boards & Commissions Application



*
date: 10/01/09
Contact_FullName: Adam Cotton
Resident: Yes
Contact_StreetAddress: 1902 Northwestern Ave. 50010
Contact_Address2: Iowa Civil Rights Commission
Contact_Email: siradamcotton@gmail.com
Contact_HomePhone: 515 509 6140
Contact_WorkPhone:
Contact_FAX:
Occupation: AmeriCorps VISTA
education: BA Sociology (UNC-Asheville)
City-Side:
City Website: yes
TV12:
Tribune:
ISU Daily:
Register:
KASI:
Other: yes
Where: Ralph Rosenberg, meeting with the Human Relations
Commission, and the League of Human & Civil Rights Commission Agencies
meetings

preferences:

Human Relations Commission

qualifications:

Some experiences that may be of relevance include: having worked for the Iowa Civil Rights Commission as an AmeriCorps VISTA, holding membership on the League of Iowa Human & Civil Rights Agencies, attending various Commissioner, Civil Rights, EEOC and diversity trainings, facilitating public fair housing hearings, and co-writing the Fair Housing Impediments Study for the State (ICRC). Other relevant experiences may include community organizing for United Ames (the Ames Community Conversations on Diversity group), supervision of AmeZone (the new youth service learning group), as well as close connections to various City departments (e.g. Planning, Parks & Rec, Managers Office, Housing, APL), City Council and the Mayor. I am also currently a student in the Ames Citizens Academy, a supporter of Breaking Down the Barriers, and a member of the YSS Diversity Task Force. (see <http://madamcotton.webs.com> for resume)

reasons:

In my short time living in Ames, I have met and worked with hundreds of citizens who passionately desire to live in a place where diversity is appreciated and differences are respected. As the organizer of the Community Conversations subcommittees (now collectively referred to as United Ames), I was able to assist community members in putting words into action. Projects

like the Street 'N' Greet block party trailer, the welcome booth at the 4th of July Pancake Breakfast, the information table at Asheville High School 's Parents Night this fall, AmeZone, and the United Ames logo campaign are all great examples of how citizens who desire a unified and inclusive community with strong neighborhoods and diverse schools must work hard to achieve their goals.

With all the successes of United Ames and the City of Ames this summer, it is also important to recognize the many needs of such a growing socioeconomically and racially diverse community and realize the long road ahead in terms of enforcement of fair housing and civil rights laws and dismantling discrimination of all types. I hope that through my experiences listed above, I will be able to help the Human Relations Commission to find new and innovative ways to reach out to the members of our community that lack understanding of their civil rights or are unaware of the process of filing a complaint. I would like to help ensure that landlords and employers are aware of their responsibilities. I would like to help enhance our commission's website content to offer more educational material and address key concerns of Ames citizens in matters of civil rights, while ensuring similar content is available in brochure form for easy distribution to low income and computer illiterate populations. With my experiences, a passion for diversity appreciation, and the many civil rights and commissioner trainings I have attended, I believe that I will offer many more ideas and all the needed initiative to act on these ideas.

conflicts:

M. Adam Cotton