



CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 25, 2024
4:00 PM

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Grand Rapids Human Rights Commission is to promote a community of harmony and respect for the rights and dignity of all.

CALL TO ORDER: Pursuant to due notice and call thereof, the Human Rights Commission will hold a regular meeting on Wednesday, September 25, 2024, at 4:00pm in City Hall Council Chambers at 420 North Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Erickson at 4:00pm.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

Commissioner Angella Erickson
Commissioner Doug Learmont
Commissioner Amy Blomquist
Commissioner Ronald Grossman
Commissioner Rick Blake
Commissioner Julee Jackson

ABSENT

Commissioner Joan Gunderman
Commissioner Katelyn Dokken
City Liaison, Human Resources Officer, Chery Pierzina

PUBLIC INPUT (if anyone wishes to address the Commission):

None.

SETTING THE AGENDA: (This is an opportunity to approve the regular agenda as presented or add/delete an Agenda item by a majority vote of the Commission members present.)

Motion made by Commissioner Blake, Seconded by Commissioner Grossman to approve the Agenda as written. Voting Yea: Commissioner Erickson, Commissioner Learmont, Commissioner Blomquist, Commissioner Grossman, Commissioner Blake, Commissioner Jackson

PRESENTATION:

1. Guest Speaker, City Attorney Chad Sterle

City Attorney, Chad Sterle was unable to attend and will reschedule for next month.

APPROVE MINUTES:

2. Approve August 28, 2024, Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Blake, Seconded by Commissioner Blomquist to approve the August 28, 2024, Minutes. Voting Yea: Commissioner Erickson, Commissioner Learmont, Commissioner Blomquist, Commissioner Grossman, Commissioner Blake, Commissioner Jackson

FINANCIALS:

3. There has been no change to the Financials.

There was no change to the financials, therefore there was no motion.

BUSINESS:

4. 2024 Work Plan
5. Indigenous People's Day

The Commission had a robust discussion of the upcoming Indigenous People's Day event being held on October 14th, 2024, on the Central School grounds. The MacRostie Art Center is hosting the event and has some partners such as ISD318 and Anishinabe Education. They are requesting sponsorship from the Human Rights Commission via their submitted invoice #661, dated 9/18/24 for \$4,500.00.

Motion made by Commissioner Blomquist, Seconded by Commissioner Learmont to authorize sponsoring the MacRostie Art Center for \$3,100.00 for event expenses for the Indigenous People's Day on October 14th, 2024, from their invoice #661. Voting Yea: Commissioner Erickson, Commissioner Learmont, Commissioner Blomquist, Commissioner Grossman, Commissioner Blake, Commissioner Jackson

6. Community Volunteers/Policy

Discussion that the Human Rights Commission should have a Volunteer Policy in place for when citizens request to volunteer. Commissioner Jackson volunteered to check into these types of policies.

7. New Banners - Statt Wraps Design Estimate

Commission Chair Erickson will request photos of the two different kinds of banners from Statt that were quoted, before the Commission decides on their purchase of three new banners.

UPDATES:

8. Juneteenth Freedom Walk

There are no "retro" funds for events.

9. Work Group Updates

Besides the document that Commission Chair Erickson handed out to the Commission on Onboarding, there were no other work group updates given.

10. BOLD Theater

The BOLD Theatre has six tickets for the event scheduled for Saturday, September 28th, 2024. The Commission will check with City Attorney Chad Sterle whether or not they can accept the tickets. If not, they would like that the BOLD Theatre donate them to others.

CALLS/COMPLAINTS/INQUIRIES:

None.

SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:

BUSINESS:

4. Work Plan
5. Community Volunteer Policy
6. New banners - Statt Wraps

UPDATES:

7. Indigenous People's Day
8. Work Group Updates
9. School District Policy
10. BOLD Theatre

ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45pm.