



CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 26, 2022
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, October 26, 2022 at 4:00 PM in City Hall Council Chambers at 420 North Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

The meeting was called to order at 4:05pm.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

Commissioner Angella Erickson
Commissioner Bernadine Joselyn
Chairperson Lea Friesen
Commissioner Doug Learmont
Commissioner Tasha Connelly
Commissioner Ashley Goodman
Commissioner Edward Krumpotich
Commissioner Amanda Lussier

ABSENT

Commissioner Joan Gunderman

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

City IT Director Erik Scott requested to speak under the Public Input regarding the changes coming to the City's email. Due to those changes, he is requesting that the Commission make a decision as to keep their City email or use a personal email for Commission correspondence. Just to let the members know, both are subject to Minnesota Statutes and can be audited. Please respond by December 5th prior to the migration of the city to grandrapidsmn.gov.

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 Commission Chair Friesen, Second by Commissioner Connelly to accept the Agenda, all in favor, motion passed.

PRESENTATION:

1. Monthly Speaker: None for October.

APPROVE MINUTES:

2. Approve September 28, 2022 Minutes

Motion made by Commissioner Jocelyn, Second by Commissioner Erickson to approve the minutes from September 28, 2022. All in favor, motion passed.

FINANCIALS:

3. Review Financials for October 2022: There was no change from September's Financials.

The Commission reviewed the Financials.

BUSINESS:

4. IDI Training

Prior to the discussion of the IDI Training, the Commission welcomed Commissioner Lussier (previously McCabe) to the Commission.

Discussion of the IDI Training ensued. The training is free of cost due to a grant, but may be more costly for a group. There is a new Human Resource Director at the City to whom something like the IDI Training would need to be presented to, to see if it's a good fit for the City.

Commission Chair Friesen will get in touch with the IDI Training contact and cc Commissioner Connelly to get information to the City's Human Resources Director.

Commissioner Joselyn questioned whether the City has an onboard training for new city employees, such as Diversity/Equity Training? Commissioner Connelly answered that, that was another question for the new Human Resources Director.

5. Work Plan Review

This item to be addressed at the November 30, 2022 meeting and Worksession.

6. November Worksession

Discussion of the November Work-Session Meeting The Library no longer reserves meeting rooms and their hours are only until 6pm. The Commission will have to find another place to meet if they do not want to meet at City Hall.

It was brought up to the Commission that it could be possible to have the meeting at the Public Works/Public Utilities Service Center. City Staff, Cindy Lyman will check into the availability and reserve the room for the Commission on November 30th.

UPDATES:

7. Indigenous People's Day Review

Indigenous People's Day Review. Discussion on the Event, that it was a good turn out approximately 100 people and was a nice sample of food. It was difficult to hear the dedication/blessing ceremony at the sculpture from the Arts & Culture Commission Chair Kari Hedlund and then City Councilor Tasha Connelly.

It was also mentioned that the Event needs to be more organized and have more communication with the Ojibwe Education Programmer. In the future, the Human Rights Commission may want to establish and pay a primary coordinator to organize the entire event.

8. Work Group Update

Work Group Update: Commissioner Krumpotich led the discussion for his work group saying that there is a Universal Declaration of Human Rights for 2023. It will be a year of celebration kicking off.

Commission Chair Friesen stated that Heidi Holton that works for the Advocates of Human Rights.org, would like to know what we are looking specifically for a speaker. The Human Rights Awareness Day is December 10th. It was noted that Robin Phillips is the Executive Director for Advocates for Human Rights and the Commission will check on any other activities or events scheduled for December 10th, 2022.

Commissioner Goodman departed at 5:05pm.

Commission Chair Friesen made a motion and Second by Commissioner Learmont to commit \$900.00 for the Human Rights Awareness Event in December 2022 All approved, motion passed.

CALLS/COMPLAINTS/INQUIRIES:

Commissioner Connelly would like to request name plates for the Commission in the future. City Attorney to check with the City Administrator to see if he will take care of that for the Commission.

SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:

BUSINESS:

4. Work Plan Review

UPDATES:

5. IDI Training

6. City Human Resources Follow-Up

7. Work Group Update

8. Human Rights Awareness Event

ADJOURN:

Meeting adjourned at 5:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Cynthia Lyman