



# CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 28, 2022  
4:00 PM

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## *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.*

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CALL TO ORDER: Pursuant to due notice and call thereof, the Human Rights Commission will hold a regular meeting on Wednesday, September 28, 2022 at 4:00 pm in the City Hall Council Chambers at 420 North Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

The Grand Rapids Human Rights Commission Meeting was called to order at 4:04pm.

### 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 Joan Gunderman

City Attorney Chad Sterle

#### ABSENT:

Commissioner Amanda McCabe

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 was made by Commissioner Connelly, Second by Commissioner Erickson to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor, motion passed.**

#### PRESENTATION:

1. September Speaker: No Speaker

#### APPROVE MINUTES:

2. Approve the August 31, 2022 Minutes

**Motion was made by Commissioner Joselyn, Second by Commissioner Connelly to approve the August 31, 2022 Minutes. All in favor, motion passed.**

#### FINANCIALS:

3. Review September 2022 Financials - No Change from August 2022

#### BUSINESS:

4. Indigenous People's Day Planning

The Commission discussed the upcoming Indigenous People's Day event on October 10, 2022 and the activities planned. Arts & Culture Commission Chair, Kari Hedlund will give the introduction to the celebration, the City Mayor will read the Resolution and the City Council will be present. Everything from the meal to the drummers and the gifts for the Goodman Sculpture are set. The Arts & Culture Commission has committed \$2,500 to the event and has requested that the Human Rights Commission match their contribution.

**Motion was made by Commission Chair Friesen, Second by Commissioner Gunderman to commit \$2,500 to the activities of the Indigenous People's Day Event on October 10, 2022. All in favor, motion passed.**

5. IDI Training

Commission Chair Friesen asked if there was more information on the IDI Training and Commissioner Joselyn stated that it was important for staff and the city to go through this and it is available at no cost to the city. It is a diagnostic tool and Kootasca is going through it right now. Commissioner Friesen will try to reach out for more information and to see if this may be a possibility.

6. Work Plan Review

Discussion of Workplan. Around October last year, the Commission went to the City Council to present their Workplan. Commissioner Connelly said that the Commission's allocation for next year is the same so far. After Juneteenth and the Indigenous People's Day, there will be approximately \$1,507.00 left in the Budget for this year.

Commissioner Joselyn stated that December is Public Assistance Month and it would be nice to invite a Community Representative of that Protected Class to speak. Human Rights Day is on Saturday, December 10th.

The Commission would like to have an informal work session to brainstorm for next year. It was suggested to hold it after the regularly scheduled Commission meeting in November and depending on the date and availability of the Library, it will then be posted by city staff.

Commissioner Joselyn departed from the meeting.

The Commission discussed having a speaker related to Human Rights Awareness depending on which group they would like to target, i.e. High School or City Employees etc. There may also be some event at ICC related to Human Rights Awareness that the Commission can check with them about.

## UPDATES:

### 7. Workgroup Update - LBGTQ+

Noted that the Agenda should be "LBGTQ+". Discussion revolved around using the questions that were developed from other previous monthly speakers. For example, what the Commission should be aware of from the speaker's perspective of the community. There should also be an announcement of the speaker in the paper. In the past, there were regularly Public Service Announcements in the paper or on social media.

### 8. Social Media Post

Discussion of the attachments for the social media postings. The Commission would like to go live with the posts in December in the Library, the City's page and Facebook for the City. They also suggested radio stations and also a Public Service Announcement in the paper. The Commission needs to check with Tom to post to the City's sites.

### 9. Downtown Planning Update

The survey for the next phase of the Downtown Planning, currently has the largest participation of a survey so far.

## CALLS/COMPLAINTS/INQUIRIES:

It was noted that on September 26, 2022, the Grand Rapids Police Department Board requested that the Grand Rapids Police Department update profiling by adopting a policy change. No other specifics were given.

## SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:

### BUSINESS:

1. IDI Training
2. Work Plan Review
3. November Worksession

### UPDATES:

4. Indigenous People's Day Review
5. Work Group Update

## ADJOURN:

Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by: Cynthia Lyman