



CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 30, 2023
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, August 30, 2023 at 4:00PM in City Hall Council Chambers at 420 North Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

Commission Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Commissioner Angella Erickson, Commissioner Bernadine Joselyn, Commissioner Doug Learmont, Commissioner Tasha Connelly Commissioner Edward Krumpotich, Commissioner Amanda Lussier, Commissioner Joan Gunderman, Commissioner Amy Blomquist

ABSENT: Commissioner Ashley Goodman

STAFF PRESENT: Human Resource Officer-Staff Liaison 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 Learmont, Seconded by Commissioner Erickson to add Agenda Items 1A-Introductions, 8C-Banner Review, 8D-Schedule 2024 Workplan Planning Session and approve the Agenda as presented. Voting Yea: Commissioner Erickson, Commissioner Joselyn, Commissioner Learmont, Commissioner Connelly, Commissioner Krumpotich, Commissioner Lussier, Commissioner Gunderman, Commissioner Blomquist. Motion Passed.

PRESENTATION:

1. September Speaker

There is no speaker this evening.

1A. Prior to the meeting getting started, Introductions were given from each Commission member to new Commission Member Amy Blomquist.

APPROVE MINUTES:

2. Approve Minutes for June 28, 2023

Motion made by Commissioner Joselyn, Seconded by Commissioner Krumpotich to approve the Minutes for June 28, 2023. Voting Yea: Commissioner Erickson, Commissioner Joselyn, Commissioner Learmont, Commissioner Connelly, Commissioner Krumpotich, Commissioner Lussier, Commissioner Gunderman, Commissioner Blomquist. Motion Passed.

FINANCIALS:

3. Approve Financials for August 2023

Motion made by Commissioner Gunderman, Seconded by Commissioner Connelly to approve the Financials for August 2023. Voting Yea: Commissioner Erickson, Commissioner Joselyn, Commissioner Learmont, Commissioner Connelly, Commissioner Krumpotich, Commissioner Lussier, Commissioner Gunderman, Commissioner Blomquist. Motion Passed.

BUSINESS:

4. Welcome New Commissioner Amy Blomquist

New Commissioner Amy Blomquist welcomed by Commission during Introductions.

5. Resignation of Commissioner Ashley Goodman

Commission noted that Ashley Goodman has resigned.

6. Approve Donation Request from ISD 318 Ojibwe Education Program - Tall Timber Days Exhibition Pow-Wow

Commissioner Erickson commented that the Commission should acknowledge that they received the request for donations letter, but were not able to support their request due to the cancellation of the July 26th meeting. Follow through contacting Jessica Brobowski and give an update for next meeting on whether the Commission can support and collaborate for Indigenous People's Day.

7. Training

This item falls under a Work Group and will be talked about at that time.

8. Workplan Review

- A) Quarter 3
- B) Quarter 4

8A. Protected Classes are still on the City Website, this topic will be addressed at the 2024 Workplan Planning Session.

8B. The 75th Human Rights Awareness Day is on December 10th, it will fall under Quarter 4.

8C. The Human Rights Commission Banner was reviewed by the Commissioners. It is not a budgeted item for this year. The Commission will review the quotes and budget for this expense for 2024.

Motion made by Commissioner Connelly, Seconded by Commissioner Krumpotich to approve of and get quotes for the Human Rights Commission Banner. Voting Yea: Commissioner Erickson, Commissioner Joselyn, Commissioner Learmont, Commissioner Connelly, Commissioner Krumpotich, Commissioner Lussier, Commissioner Gunderman, Commissioner Blomquist. Motion Passed.

8D. Schedule a 2024 Workplan Planning Session. As last year, the Commission would like to meet for a planning session to plan their 2024 Workplan to present to the City Council next year. Commissioner Erickson will set up a "Doodle-Poll" and look into venues for the meeting. Once that's done, she will forward the information and city staff will send out the date and location.

UPDATES:

9. Work Groups

A) Community Event Work Group; Joselyn, Lussier, Goodman and Gunderman

B) Data & Demographics; Erickson, Krumpotich and Learmont

C) Programming & Presentations; Joselyn Krumpotich and Erickson

9A. Community Event Work Group discussed the Schedule of Events for Indigenous People's Day at Central School and 1st Ave NW (closed between 4th St NW & 5th St NW). Included in the Schedule of Events are Speakers, Recognition of Veterans and will feature Vendors, Exhibits, Music, Family Activities, Presentations, a Community Banquet, Film Screening of "Thunderheart" and a Concert at the MacRostie Art Center.

Note that Human Rights Commission Chair Ed Krumpotich left the meeting at 5:10pm.

Discussion ensued regarding the expenditures for Indigenous People's Day. The largest expense for the event will be the caterer for the Community Banquet.

Motion made by Commissioner Erickson, Seconded by Commissioner Blomquist to approve expenditures for the Indigenous People's Day Event up to \$5,000. Voting Yea: Commissioner Erickson, Commissioner Joselyn, Commissioner Learmont, Commissioner Connelly, Commissioner Lussier, Commissioner Gunderman, Commissioner Blomquist. Motion passed.

9B. Data & Demographics Work Group is looking at Mental Health and Poverty from the Demographics and tying in training.

9C. Programming & Presentations Work Group discussed the September Speaker and having Nick Hanson from Kootasca give a report around Poverty in our Community.

10. Indigenous People's Day

The Indigenous People's Day Event Schedule was discussed by the Community Event Work Group.

SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:

BUSINESS:

4. Workplan Review
 - A) Quarter 3
 - B) Quarter 4

UPDATES:

5. Work Groups
 - A) Community Event Work Group; Joselyn, Lussier and Gunderman
- Indigenous People's Day Event
 - B) Data & Demographics; Erickson, Krumpotich and Learmont
 - C) Programming & Presentations; Joselyn, Krumpotich and Erickson
6. New Banner
7. 2024 Workplan Planning Session

ADJOURN:

The meeting adjourned at 5:31pm

Respectfully submitted by, Cynthia Lyman