



# CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, December 27, 2023  
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, December 27, 2023 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 Krumpotich at 4:02pm.

### ROLL CALL:

#### PRESENT:

Commissioner Bernadine Joselyn  
Commissioner Doug Learmont  
Commissioner Edward Krumpotich  
Commissioner Joan Gunderman  
Commissioner Amy Blomquist  
Commissioner Ronald Grossman

#### ABSENT:

Commissioner Angella Erickson  
Commissioner Tasha Connelly  
Commissioner Amanda Lussier

City Staff Present: Human Resource 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 Krumpotich, Seconded by Commissioner Blomquist to add Agenda Item under Business, 3A) Reword/change the Kootasca Request from November 29th, 2023, to read "sponsorship" of their Event on January 6th, 2024. Voting Yea: Commissioner Joselyn, Commissioner Learmont, Commissioner Krumpotich, Commissioner Gunderman, Commissioner Blomquist and Commissioner Grossman.**

PRESENTATION:

None.

APPROVE MINUTES:

1. Approve Minutes from November 29, 2023

**Motion made by Commissioner Joselyn, Seconded by Commissioner Krumpotich to approve the Minutes from November 29, 2023. Voting Yea: Commissioner Joselyn, Commissioner Learmont, Commissioner Krumpotich, Commissioner Gunderman, Commissioner Blomquist and Commissioner Grossman.**

FINANCIALS:

2. Approve Financials for December 2023

The Commission reviewed the December 2023 Financials, and noted that the year end balance does not reflect the Herald Review Invoice of \$465.55 which has not yet been paid. After the Herald Review Ad has been paid and the Kootasca invoice has been paid, the remainder will be zero.

**Motion made by Commissioner Krumpotich, Seconded by Commissioner Gunderman to approve of the December 2023 Financials. Voting Yea: Commissioner Joselyn, Commissioner Learmont, Commissioner Krumpotich, Commissioner Gunderman, Commissioner Blomquist and Commissioner Grossman.**

BUSINESS:

- 3A) Added Agenda Item: Reword/change Kootasca request from November 29th, 2023, to read "sponsorship" of their Event on January 6th, 2024 for \$1,037.45. The amount of the sponsorship is \$1,000 plus any remaining balance from the 2023 Budget which will be \$37.45. A notice stating that there could be a quorum at this event will be posted.

**Motion made by Commissioner Krumpotich, Seconded by Commissioner Gunderman to reword/change the Kootasca Request from November 29th, 2023, to read "sponsorship" of their Event on January 6th, 2024, for \$1,037.45 (\$1,000 plus any remaining balance in the 2023 Budget which is \$37.45). Voting Yea: Commissioner Joselyn, Commissioner Learmont, Commissioner Krumpotich, Commissioner Gunderman and Commissioner Grossman. Voting Abstaining: Commissioner Blomquist.**

3. 2024 Workplan Review

The Commission reviewed and discussed the 2024 Work Plan. It was brought up if the Protected Classes posts on Social Media would continue, they will check with Commissioner Erickson on this at the January meeting. The Commission would like to revisit and possibly come up with ideas to do other events for other classes in addition to Juneteenth and Indigenous

People's Day Events. The 2024 Work Plan needs to be presented to the City Council.

4. Remaining Budget

This was discussed during the Financials and 3A, \$37.45 will be added to the Kootasca sponsorship, leaving the 2023 Budget at Zero.

UPDATES:

5. Work Groups

- A) Community Event Work Group; Joselyn, Lussier and Gunderman
- B) Data and Demographics; Erickson, Krumpotich and Blomquist
- C) Programming and Presentations; Joselyn, Krumpotich and Erickson

A) The Work Group will discuss Juneteenth and Indigenous People's Day for 2024 by learning from the 2023 Events. They are also looking for more assistance with these events.

B) There was no recent meeting.

C) The Work Group will be looking at what presentations/events could be brought to the Community. During the 1st Quarter, they will try to arrange to have speakers come in and speak with the Commission.

CALLS/COMPLAINTS/INQUIRIES:

None.

SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:

BUSINESS:

- 4) Election of Officers
- 5) Revisit Work Groups
- 5) 2024 Workplan Review
- 6) Banner
- 7) Blanket Exercise

UPDATES:

8) Work Groups

- A) Community Event Work Group; Joselyn, Lussier and Gunderman
- B) Data and Demographics; Erickson, Krumpotich and Blomquist
- C) Programming and Presentations; Joselyn, Krumpotich and Erickson

ADJOURN:

The meeting adjourned at 5:12pm.

Respectfully submitted by Cynthia Lyman