

## CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, June 28, 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, June 28, 2023 at 4:00PM in City Hall Council Chambers at 420 North Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

## **ROLL CALL:**

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

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.)

## PRESENTATION:

1. Monthly Speaker - July

## APPROVE MINUTES:

2. Approve the June 7, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes

## FINANCIALS:

<u>3.</u> Review June Financials - there has been no change.

## **BUSINESS:**

- 4. Review Grand Rapids Virtual Meeting Policy
- 5. Possible Meeting Date/Time Change & ICTV
- <u>6.</u> Training Opportunities
- 7. Workplan Review
  - A) Current
  - B) Quarter 3
  - C) Quarter 4

## **UPDATES**:

- 8. 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
- 9. Juneteenth
- 10. Pride Month

CALLS/COMPLAINTS/INQUIRIES:

SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:

ADJOURN:



## CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 07, 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 Special Meeting on Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at 4:00 PM in City Hall Council Chambers at 420 North Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

## **PRESENT**

Commissioner Angella Erickson Commissioner Bernadine Joselyn Commissioner Ashley Goodman Commissioner Edward Krumpotich Commissioner Joan Gunderman

## **ABSENT**

Commissioner Doug Learmont Commissioner Tasha Connelly Commissioner Amanda Lussier

## **ROLL CALL:**

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.)

## **APPROVE MINUTES:**

1. April 26, 2023

Motion made by Commissioner Joselyn, Second by Commission Gunderman to approve the Minutes from April 26, 2023. All in favor, motion passed.

## **BUSINESS:**

2. Approve Juneteenth Proclamation

Motion made by Commissioner Joselyn and Second by Commissioner Goodman to approve the Juneteenth Proclamation to go to the City Council with amended date of June 12, 2023. All in favor, motion passed.

## 3. Juneteenth Update

Commissioner Joselyn gave an update on the Juneteenth Committee. They are having brochures, a flipbook and stickers printed. They will be distributed at various locations such as the Y, Brewed Awakenings, Wildflower Bookstore and the MacRostie. Invoices will come in for the Finance Department at the next meeting.

## ADJOURN:

Motion made by Commissioner Erickson, Second by Commissioner Goodman to adjourn. All in favor, Motion passed.

## CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

## SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2023

	Actual 6/30/2023
Human Rights Budgeted Expenditures	\$ 7,500
Name Plates Indigenous People's Day Postage Expense	342 - - - -
Grants Received	-
Balance Available	\$ 7,158

## **Training Options for Grand Rapids Human Rights Commission**

	Topic	Resources
		egal Framework, Policy, and Process
1	Universal Human Rights	United Nations Association of the United States of America, MN Chapter speaker's bureau <a href="https://unamn.org/speakersbureau/">https://unamn.org/speakersbureau/</a> Please contact our chapter president, Stuart Ackman (stua@unamn.org) for further information on requesting any of our speakers.
2	Human/Civil/Employment Rights Law in MN	
3	Intro to MN Department of Human Rights	Audel Shokohzadeh Community Engagement Director   External Relations Office: 651-539-1088   Cell: 651-283-7068 Email: audel.shokohzadeh@state.mn.us  •"Getting to Know Your State's Civil Rights Agency" Provides an overview of three core functions of our agency: investigations, equity and inclusion in state contracting, and education/outreach  •"Know Your Civil Rights" A deeper dive into how we enforce the Minnesota Human Rights Act and how people can contact us if they feel they are experiencing discrimination or harassment on the basis of their protected class  •"Service Animal and Emotional Support Animal Protections" A close look at the protections under the Minnesota Human Rights Act as they relate to
4	Introduction to Robert's Rules	people that have service animals and emotional support animals.
5	Alternative Meeting Processes	
		er-Cultural Competence/Anti-Racism
6	Implicit Bias/White Supremacy	FREC – Facilitating Racial Equity Collaborative
	Culture	https://overcomingracism.org/programs/greater-minnesota-partnerships/ FREC seeks ways to connect with and support organizations in Greater Minnesota working on racial justice and equity in their communities. Goals for FREC's Greater Minnesota:  1. Help FREC learn about the issues and challenges of racial justice in different parts of the state.  2. Help FREC build new relationships around the state.  3. Support collaborative anti-racism/racial justice work around the state, including financial support  4. Strengthen Minnesota's anti-racism infrastructure.  In 2021 FREC is offering grants of up to \$2000 to support organizations and community groups in Greater Minnesota working to address racial justice and equity in their community. Local partners would take the lead in planning and implementation. FREC would co-sponsor the event, which would include financial and logistical support.  We accept applications on a rolling basis and review them once a month to be brought to the FREC Steering Committee for final approval. Applicants will be notified within 2 months of receipt of their proposal. For inquiries, please email info@overcomingracism.org.  To apply, please fill out the online application.
7	Indigenous Rights	thres and Experience of Frotestea Glasses
,	<ul> <li>Relations with Sovereign Tribal Nations/</li> <li>Treaty Rights</li> <li>Ainishinaabe World View</li> </ul>	
8	Civil and Human Rights in the Work Place: work place discrimination	

9	Physically disabled	HRC met with Myrna Peterson July 2021
1	Mental health as a protected	
0	class and related	
	discrimination	
		Current Issues
1	Grand Rapids Police policies,	
1	training, interaction practice	
	Grand Rapids City staff policies	Resources from the League of MN Cities:
	training, interaction practice	https://www.lmc.org/resources/race-equity/ https://www.racialequityalliance.org/
		LMC recommendations on Key actions for cities to consider in addressing racial inequities:
		<ul> <li>Explore the demographic history, including the racial history, and current demographics of the community.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Normalize the topic of race through hosting facilitated conversations among city staff, elected leaders, and in the community (e.g. book or film and discussion events).</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Identify local partners/community groups to engage in conversation about the experiences of people of color in the community.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Collect and analyze data on city services by race (e.g. geographic data on where park improvements have been made or where trees have been planted by the city).</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Organize training for staff and elected officials that focuses on developing shared terminology and concepts of race and race equity (e.g. implicit and explicit bias).</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Identify staff and elected officials for an internal equity team; consider who is passionate for and interested in the work. Include employees and other officials of color.</li> </ul>
		Resources to support the work
		The League has compiled a variety of resources to support cities in their work of advancing racial equity. They can be used to help the work of getting comfortable talking about race and examining programs and policies with an equity lens. Cities have used the following materials as foundations for dialogue among city staff and in the community.
		<ul> <li>Race: Power of an Illusion (PBS series looking at the history of racism in the U.S., questions of whether race is biology or a social construct, and housing policy) – for film and discussion groups.</li> </ul>
		• Zootopia – for film and discussion groups about diversity and inclusion.
		<ul> <li>White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism by Robin DiAngelo – for employee book club discussions.</li> </ul>
		A Good Time for the Truth (essays by Minnesotan authors who identify as people of color) – for discussion groups.
		<ul> <li>Implicit Bias: Peanut Butter, Jelly and Racism (PBS video) – for employee and elected official training sessions.</li> </ul>
		These are just a few examples. <b>For the complete list of materials</b> , including books, films, podcasts and short video clips please contact Rachel Walker at <a href="mailto:rwalker@lmc.org">rwalker@lmc.org</a> .

## **Grand Rapids Human Rights Commission** Calendar Year 2023 Work Plan

Prepared in accordance with Commission By-laws, Article 10 DRAFT

2023 OUARTER	GOAL OR ACTIVITY (refer to goal or activity description page for more detail)	ORDINANCE	ACTION TAKEN	EST. COST (See Notes)	ACTUAL
Q1 Jan – March	Improve Marketing Efforts - Add information / Events to HRC web page? - Protected classes highlights for social media - Other opportunities to raise awareness of human rights related events, content to-be-determined for currently existing City social media - Additional materials/supplies (banner/tablecloth/etc.)			\$750	
Protected Class Spotlight: Jan – None Feb – Race Mar – Sex	New commissioner on-boarding and commissioner training and education -Establish work group to define and develop specific training materials or personnel for new and existing Commissioners -Reports at commission meetings to improve knowledge about commission duties, human rights issues, and human rights concerns	City code Division 6 Commission Bylaws, including Article Ten		\$100	
	Human Rights Awareness – Presentations w/ ISD. 318 High School Students Continuation of presentations offered in December 2022 to raise awareness on human rights and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.  Work group developed to explore opportunities with adults as well (ex. community ed, MN North – Itasca, faith groups, etc.)  Reif Players Connect/Conversation  Explore opportunities to invite and/or visit with Reif Players re: donation to the HRC.				

	Workgroup Development Identify major yearly events/interests and assign commissioners to support. The commission believes this will encourage more proactive approach to some of our events and partnering opportunities. Possible groups may include but are not limited to: Indigenous Peoples Day – Data & Demographics – Commissioner Training – Programming and Presentations – Marketing				
	Gather and evaluate demographic data  - Review 2022 data to review and inform possible changes to work plan and priorities  -Possible training with Ben Winchester of UMN Extension  -Gather or develop information on areas of greatest concern regarding human rights issues  -Develop, as appropriate, activities or policy recommendations to address human rights concerns	Sec. 2- 303(3)(1, 2, and 6) Sec. 2-301 (a)	Connect with Will Richter from Library     Outreach to Wilder	\$500	
	Quarter Total			\$1,650	
Q2 April – June	Commissioner on-boarding and commissioner training and education - Conduct training for new and existing Commissioners -Reports at commission meetings to improve knowledge about commission duties, human rights issues, and human rights concerns	City code Division 6 Commission Bylaws		\$100	
Protected Class <u>Spotlight:</u>	Outreach to Jessica B. / Anishinaabe Education re: Indigenous People's Day Celebration 2023 Reminder work group should meet with prior to school summer break and begin conversation on support needed				
Apr – None May – Age June – Sexual orientation	Outreach to Girls and Boys Club Reach out to see about possibly collaboration opportunities with B&G Club during their summer programming in April				
	Sponsorship of MacRostie and "Waiting for Beds" Exhibit in May More details TBA – total project \$2—3K, centers on disability			\$500	
	Support Juneteenth Day Event	Sec. 2-303(3)		\$2,000	

	\$1,000	\$3,600	\$100	\$500		009\$	\$100	\$2,500	\$1,000
			City code Division 6 Commission Bylaws, including Article Ten	Sec. 2-303(3), Sec. 2- 301(a)(5)			City code Division 6 Commission Bylaws, including Article Ten	Sec. 2-303(1, 3) Article(10)(3, 5)	Sec. 2-301 Sec. 2-303(5)
-Recognize <i>Freedom Day,</i> including human rights, civil rights, and freedom of discrimination in our community by assisting in public awareness and celebration events	Involvement in Pride - Look for opportunities to be involved in and/or support community events, outreach, or publication	Quarter Total	<b>Commissioner training and education</b> -Identify and support commissioner training and education opportunities	Human rights educational opportunities -Explore / discuss Reif Center, District 318, Arts & Culture Commission or other human rights partnership opportunities	Boys and Girls Club – Presentations/Partnerships	Quarter Total	Commissioner training and education -Send select commissioners to attend annual Human Rights Symposium organized by the MN Department of Human Rights (typically in December)	Indigenous People's Day Cosponsor activities or publications to further human rights purposes with regard to indigenous people in the city	Human Rights Awareness Events - Human Rights Day (Dec 10) 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary -Community Conversations
			e <b>pt</b>	July – None Aug – Disability Sept – National Origin		)	ડ્ડ	Oct – Keligion Nov – None Dec – Public Assistance	

-Possible tie to school collaboration -Possible speakers and presentations - Possible Event	Quarter Total   \$3,600	2023 Commission Budget \$7,500	<b>2022 Carry Over</b> \$4,167	<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b> \$11,667	Budgeted Expenditures \$9,450	Uncommitted Funds \$2,217	TOTAL ACTUAL EXPENDITURES
-Possible tie to -Possible spea - Possible Ever	Quarter Total	2023 Commiss	2022 Carry Ov	TOTAL BUDGE	Budgeted Exp	Uncommitted	TOTAL ACTUA

## Notes:

- The time needed to organize and arrange the components for many activities will result in most listings involving more than one calendar quarter А. Я.
- The estimated Cost column lists budgeted net cash costs to the City. It does not include contributions made to an activity by a collaborating partner nor an assumed value for donated time or resources by Human Rights commissioners, city administrative staff, or others.

## Summary Description of Goals and Activities

## **Improve Human Rights Awareness**

with city staff and the broader community, sponsoring speakers or informational and educational events or contests, and promoting Human Rights policies of the city with respect to all unfair discriminatory practices by conducting public information meetings. During 2022, the Commission will appoint a work group to develop a plan and conduct one or more activities to improve human rights awareness in the city. Consideration of ways City of Grand Rapids Rules, Division 6 Section 2-301 states that the Commission will take positive measures to disseminate the nondiscriminatory developing and distributing new brochures, literature, or pamphlets that create awareness and promote better understanding of human rights to promote human rights awareness may include improvements to the Human Rights Commission page on the city's website, updating or

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Day on December 10, 2022. The Commission will also identify other areas in which there is need for making citizens, businesses, organizations, city staff, and institutions aware of human rights concerns and requirements.

## New Commissioner On-boarding:

bylaws. Newly appointed commissioners should also be aware of past actions and activities of the Grand Rapids Human Rights Commission as well Human Rights commissioner terms are for three years. Commissioner terms may be renewed with city council appointment, and normal turnover knowledgeable about federal and state human rights laws, city ordinances regarding the human rights commission procedures, and other aspects. This on-boarding process is to be discussed with a plan and materials developed during 2021 for implementation as city council positions and needs related to human rights. The Commission intends to develop a plan and program that would inform newly typically results in one to three new commissioners being appointed each year. To effectively fulfill their roles, commissioners should be appointed commissioners, as well as continuing commissioners, of their responsibilities, duties, city policies and relevant administrative with newly-appointment commissioners.

## Commissioner Training and Education

Actions or decisions by the Grand Rapids Human Rights Commission to provide freedom from discrimination requires knowledge about the types of identify and act to identify and support commissioner training opportunities and activities in calendar year 2022. This may include approaches such accommodations, public services, education, and unfounded charges (City of Grand Rapids Rules, Division 6 Sec 2-301). The Commission plans to as outside speakers, presentation or event sponsorship, community meetings, interviews, identifying and sharing of pertinent new articles or prohibited discrimination and ways in which these types of discrimination may occur in employment, housing, real property, public reports, and/or in other ways. Commissioner training and education would be an ongoing objective and activity.

## Support Juneteenth Day Event

The Commission intends to recognize Freedom Day, June 19<sup>th</sup>, which includes recognizing freedoms in our nation and community including human rights, civil rights, and freedom of discrimination and creating public awareness of these rights through assisting street-side setting of street banners recognizing these freedoms, posting of United States flags, and co-issuing news media information.

## Gather and Evaluate Demographic Data

The Grand Rapids Human Rights Commission strives to identify human rights issues of greatest concern in the city, and to develop and implement gather such data the Commission desires to identify data needs and data sources, analyze the data, and from the data analysis develop plans for activities to make improvements in the areas of greatest concern. Achieving this goal requires demographic data about the city population. To

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Commission activities in the community or recommend city policies to address, mitigate or alleviate those human rights concerns or issues. The Commission intends to review 2020 census data to inform changes in priorities, activities, and recommendations in the city.

# Review human rights educational opportunities with schools

or conducting a Human Rights Day event with local school. When an appropriate event is identified, the Commission expects to support such event. discussions with the schools in Grand Rapids to look into such possibilities as improving student experiences and understanding of diverse cultures possibly through programs such as pen pal programs with students in other countries, sponsoring an education Summit focused on human rights, Schools in Grand Rapids contain their own sets of human rights concerns and opportunities. The Commission intends to explore and begin

## Indigenous People's Day

conducting and sponsoring the annual event as part of creating cultural awareness in the local community. This role is planned to continue in 2022, including establishing a Human Rights Commission Indigenous People's Day committee to collaborate with other community groups to plan, The Commission was an important factor in establishment of Indigenous People's Day in Grand Rapids and has continued as a key factor in identify a theme, organize, and conduct an Indigenous People's Day program and activities.

# Human Rights Awareness Events - Human Rights Day (December 10)

To improve awareness of human rights in the city, the Commission plans to discuss and review ways to improve awareness of human rights in the awareness with the local schools, arranging and sponsoring topical speakers, and/or other means of fostering human rights awareness preferably city. Committee work is expected to include approaches such as conducting community conversations, identifying ways to tie human rights in collaboration with other groups or entities.

## Notes

identification of human rights concerns that were not identified in compiling the preceding list but which the Commission feels need to be During the year, adjustments may be made to reflect changes in costs, changes in priorities, changes in format or delivery methods, or addressed. Examples include: Possible adjustments could occur due to identifying new or incidental human rights concerns related to protected groups and areas from the Minnesota Human Rights and other state statutes and regulations:

<b>Protected Classes</b>	Protected Area
RACE	Employment, housing, public accommodations, public services, education, credit, and
	business

COLOR	Employment, housing, public accommodations, public services, education, credit, and business
CREED	Employment, housing, public accommodations, public services, education, and credit
RELIGION	Employment, housing, public accommodations, public services, education, and credit
NATIONAL ORIGIN	Employment, housing, public accommodations, public services, education, credit, and business
SEX	Employment, housing, public accommodations, public services, education, credit, and business
MARITAL STATUS	Employment, housing, public accommodations, education, and credit
DISABILITY	Employment, housing, public accommodations, public services, education, credit, and business
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	Employment, housing, public services, education, credit
AGE	Employment and education
SEXUAL ORIENTATION	Employment, housing, public accommodations, public services, education, credit, and business
FAMILIAL STATUS	Employment, Housing
LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION ACTIVITY	Employment

b. Adjustments could occur as a result of use of alternative education/training delivery methods such as print, seminars, webinars, speeches, and others

## Data and Demographic Work Group — Memo to City of Grand Rapids Human Rights Commission, May 2023

The data and demographic work group was created by the Human Rights Commission for the City of Grand Rapids to:

- Gather or develop demographic data. From this data we are to identify the most significant human rights concerns in our community, and
- Develop strategies, activities, and policy recommendations to address said concerns.

The work group utilized several sources to review data and demographics for Grand Rapids and surrounding area, including:

- MN Compass. (n.d.-a) *Northland Region Data*. MN Compass (Wilder Research). https://www.mncompass.org/profiles/region/northland
- MN Compass. (n.d.-b) *Grand Rapids Data*. MN Compass (Wilder Research). https://www.mncompass.org/profiles/city/grand-rapids
- Egbert, A. (2017). *Minnesotans with Disabilities: Demographic and Economic Characteristics*. MN State Demographic Center, MN Department of Administration. <a href="https://mn.gov/admin/assets/minnesotans-with-disabilities-popnotes-march2017\_tcm36-283045">https://mn.gov/admin/assets/minnesotans-with-disabilities-popnotes-march2017\_tcm36-283045</a> tcm36-283045.pdf
- Data USA. (n.d.) *Grand Rapids MN*. Data USA (Deloitte & Datawheel). https://datausa.io/profile/geo/grand-rapids-mn

After reviewing the data, this work group recommends to the Human Rights Commission to further investigate two areas of interest:

- **Disability** defined as including, but not limited to: hearing, vision, cognitive, ambulatory, self-care, independent living difficulties. *Further explanation of these can be found in Egbert (2017)*.
  - 18.7% of the City of Grand Rapids population has a disability (MN Compass, n.d.-b).
    - This is higher than what is reported at the County level, Northland Region and state level, at 17%, 15.3% and 12% respectively
  - Ambulatory and Cognitive disabilities are the most prevalent disabilities in Minnesota (Egbert, 2017)
- **Poverty & Income** including workforce, housing, education, and other connections that impact those experiencing poverty
  - o Gender gap between median earnings (Data USA, n.d.)
    - Men = \$40.649 (+/-\$6.100)
    - Women = \$26,050 (+/-\$5,523)
  - 48.5% of households in GR make \$49,999 or less for household income (MN Compass, n.d.-b)
    - 14.1% of people have income below the poverty level
    - 22.5% of people have income 100-199 of poverty level (still qualify for most aid and assistance programs)

## Data and Demographic Work Group — Memo to City of Grand Rapids Human Rights Commission, May 2023

- 18.2% of the population for whom poverty status is determined live below the poverty line, a number that is higher than the national average of 12.8% (Data USA, n.d.)
- Cost-burdened households homes that spend more than 30% of their income on rent, mortgage and other housing needs (MN Compass, n.d.-b)
  - Owner households 22.2%
  - Rent househoelds 56.5%

## **Possible Recommendations**

- How might we use social media or our web page as a place for resource compilation with accessible links?
- Inviting local speakers
  - Workforce IEDC
  - o Local businesses that provide mental health services
- Connecting more intentionally with the other City commissions
  - o Possible opportunity for the programming & presentations group?
- City Council Presentation
  - o How has the City used 2020 Census Data?
  - O Notice or information flow from us?

## Data and Demographic Work Group – Memo to City of Grand Rapids Human Rights Commission, May 2023

## **Demographic Overview / Profile**

## **Population – 11,126**

AGE	COUNT	PERCENT
Under 5 years	554	5.0%
5-9 years	760	6.9%
10-14 years	642	5.8%
15-17 years	412	3.7%
18-24 years	672	6.1%
25-34 years	1,154	10.4%
35-44 years	1,676	15.2%
45-54 years	1,203	10.9%
55-64 years	1,463	13.2%
65-74 years	1,361	12.3%
75-84 years	802	7.3%
85 years and older	357	3.2%
SEX	COUNT	PERCENT
Male	5,296	47.9%
Female	5,760	52.1%
RACE / ETHNICITY	COUNT	PERCENT
White	10,257	92.8%
Of Color	705	6.4%
Black or African American alone	suppressed	
American Indian and Alaskan Native alone	183	1.7%
Asian or Pacific Islander alone	suppressed	
Other alone	suppressed	
Two or more races alone	370	3.3%
Hispanic or Latino (of any	156	1.4%
race)		
DISABILITY	COUNT	PERCENT
Population w/ a disability	1,985	18.7%