



CITY OF MADISON HEIGHTS

LIBRARY - FLEXSPACE 240 W. 13 MILE RD.

**HUMAN RELATIONS AND EQUITY COMMITTEE MEETING
AGENDA**

FEBRUARY 20, 2025 AT 6:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- [1.](#) Minutes of January 16, 2025

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

BOOK CLUB

- [2.](#) Novels and Neighbors

REVIN IN THE HEIGHTS

3. Volunteers Needed for Detroit Autorama February 28 - March 2, 2025

ACCESSIBILITY

4. Accessibility Study

FOOD INSECURITY

CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS

- [5.](#) Juneteenth Scholarship
6. Asian Cultural Celebration May 2025

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- [7.](#) Social Media Posts
8. Meeting Time

ADJOURNMENT

NOTICE: Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation through electronic means in this meeting should contact the City Clerk at (248) 583-0826 or by email: clerks@madison-heights.org at least two working days in advance of the meeting. An attempt will be made to make reasonable accommodations.

Human Relations and Equity Committee Meeting
Madison Heights, Michigan
January 16, 2025

A Human Relations and Equity Committee Meeting was held on Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 6:00 PM at Library - Breckenridge Room, 240 W. 13 Mile Rd.

CALL TO ORDER

Staff Liaison Hames called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Vice Chair Brown is presiding over the meeting in the absence of the chair.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Vice Chair Aaron Brown
Jessica Showers
Council Representative Quinn Wright
Also present, staff liaison Heather Hames

EXCUSED ABSENT

Chair Alec Yu
Motion made by Showers to excuse Alec Yu from the meeting, Seconded by Brown. All ayes, motion carries unanimously.

ABSENT

Rebecca Chambliss
Madison Student Delegate Colton Chambliss
Council Representative Alternate Emily Rohrbach

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of November 21, 2024

Motion made by Brown to approve the minutes of November 21, 2024, Seconded by Showers. Passed unanimously.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None.

2024 WORK PLAN ITEMS

2. 2024 Work Plan End of Year Update
3. Book Club Novels + Neighbors

Motion made by Brown to add the Book Club to the 2025 Work Plan, Seconded by Showers. Passed unanimously.

4. Calendar of Recognition Days 2025

Motion made by Brown to approve the Calendar of Recognition Days with the allowance to add new days as needed, Seconded by Showers. Passed unanimously.

5. Cookbook Project

The cookbook project continues to be under review.

2025 WORK PLAN ITEMS

6. Accessibility

Showers is working on an accessibility survey.

7. Cultural Celebrations

Motion made by Brown to support and promote the Lunar New Year Lantern Festival and Parade planned for February 12, 2025, Seconded by Showers. Passed unanimously.

Motion made by Brown to support and collaborate with the 168 Group on an Asian Cultural Festival tentatively scheduled for May 17, 2025, Seconded by Showers. Passed unanimously.

8. Food Insecurity

The Madison Heights Food Pantry is agreeable for HREC to accept food donations on their behalf at events.

9. Rev'n in the Heights

Rev'n in the Heights is set for September 13, 2025.

Motion made by Brown to create subcommittee for Rev'n in the Heights consisting of Aaron Brown and Quinn Wright, Seconded by Showers. Passed unanimously..

Motion made by Brown to set the budget for Rev'n in the Heights at \$8,000 for the event and for the Subcommittee to proceed with planning and to allocate funds as needed, Seconded by Showers. Passed unanimously.

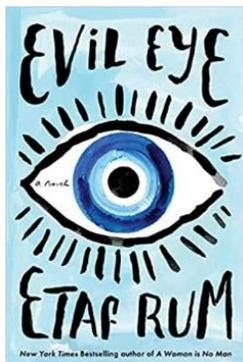
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10. Madison Heights Women's Club Donation

HREC will send a Thank You letter to the Madison Heights Women's Club for their generous donation of \$100.00.

ADJOURNMENT

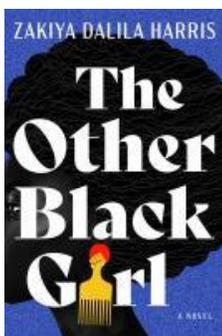
The meeting as adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

NOVELS AND NEIGHBORS BOOK CLUB - 2ND TUESDAY OF EVEN MONTHS AT 6 PM**April 8****Evil Eye by Etaf Rum**

Raised in a conservative and emotionally volatile Palestinian family in Brooklyn, Yara thought she would finally feel free when she married a charming entrepreneur who took her to the suburbs. She's gotten to follow her dreams, completing an undergraduate degree in Art and landing a good job at the local college. As a traditional wife, she also raises their two school-aged daughters, takes care of the house, and has dinner ready when her husband gets home. With her family balanced with her professional ambitions, Yara knows that her life is infinitely more rewarding than her own mother's. So why doesn't it feel like enough? After her dream of chaperoning a student trip to Europe evaporates and she responds to a colleague's racist provocation, Yara is put on probation at work and must attend mandatory counseling to keep her position. Her mother blames a family curse for the trouble she's facing, and while Yara doesn't really believe in old superstitions, she still finds herself growing increasingly uneasy with her mother's warning and the possibility of falling victim to the same mistakes. Shaken to the core by these indictments of her life, Yara finds her carefully constructed world beginning to implode. To save herself, Yara must reckon with the reality that the difficulties of the childhood she thought she left.

June 10**Red, White, and Royal Blue by Casey McQuiston**

First Son Alex Claremont-Diaz, with his sister and the Veep's genius granddaughter, are the White House Trio, a beautiful millennial marketing strategy for his mother, President Ellen Claremont. Then photos of a confrontation with his longtime nemesis Prince Henry at a royal wedding leak to the tabloids. The plan for damage control: stage a fake friendship between the First Son and the Prince. Alex soon discovers that beneath Henry's Prince Charming veneer, there's a soft-hearted eccentric with a dry sense of humor and more than one ghost haunting him. As President Claremont kicks off her reelection bid, Alex finds himself hurtling into a relationship with Henry that could derail the campaign and upend two nations.

August 12**The Other Black Girl by Zakiya Dalila Harris**

Twenty-six-year-old editorial assistant Nella Rogers is tired of being the only Black employee at Wagner Books. Fed up with the isolation and microaggressions, she's thrilled when Harlem-born and bred Hazel starts working in the cubicle beside hers. They've only just started comparing natural hair care regimens, though, when a string of uncomfortable events elevates Hazel to Office Darling, and Nella is left in the dust. Then the notes begin to appear on Nella's desk: LEAVE WAGNER. NOW.

It's hard to believe Hazel is behind these hostile messages. But as Nella starts to spiral and obsess over the sinister forces at play, she soon realizes that there's a lot more at stake than just her career. A whip-smart and dynamic thriller and sly social commentary that is perfect for anyone who has ever felt manipulated, threatened, or overlooked in the workplace, *The Other Black Girl* will keep you on the edge of your seat until the very last twist.



HREC Juneteenth Scholarship/Grant

From Quinn Wright <QuinnWright@Madison-Heights.org>

Date Sat 2/15/2025 12:24 PM

To Heather Hames <HeatherHames@Madison-Heights.org>

Dear Members of the Madison Heights Human Relations and Equity Commission,

Apology for my absence. I am away with the family.

I know Alec has a similar idea. I however wanted to submit my request in writing because of my absence and ask it be included in the agenda for consideration.

I am writing to formally request the Commission's approval for the establishment of a Juneteenth Scholarship to be awarded either on Juneteenth or at the annual Madison Heights Citizens United (MHCU) Juneteenth Celebration. This initiative aims to recognize and support students in our community who demonstrate academic achievement, leadership, and a commitment to equity and social justice.

To develop the framework for this scholarship/grant, I also request the Commission's approval to form a subcommittee dedicated to defining the scholarship criteria, application process, and selection guidelines. The scholarship would be available exclusively to Madison Heights residents, with an award amount not exceeding \$500 for the 2025 year.

This initiative aligns with the Commission's mission to promote equity and inclusion within Madison Heights, while also honoring the significance of Juneteenth by investing in the educational aspirations of our youth.

I appreciate your time and consideration of this request, and I look forward to discussing how we can bring this meaningful initiative to life. Please let me know if any additional information is needed.

Sincerely,

Quinn



Madison Heights City Council - Councilor Quinn J Wright

City Of Madison Heights
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Madison Heights, MI 48071
248-583-0829

www.madison-heights.org/

2025 Recognition Days and Months
Madison Heights Human Relations and Equity Commission

January

January 1 New Year's Day
January 20 MLK Jr Day
January 27 Holocaust Remembrance Day
January 29 Lunar New Year

February

Black History Month
February 28 – March 30 Ramadan

March

Women's History Month
March 13-14 Purim
March 14 Holi
March 31 Trans Day of Visibility

April

National Arab American Heritage Month
April 2 World Autism Day
April 12-20 Passover
April 20 Easter
April 20 Orthodox Easter
April 29-30 Eid-al-fitr

May

Mental Health Awareness Month
Jewish Heritage Month
Asian and Pacific Islander Month
May 5 Cinco de Mayo
May 26 Memorial Day

June

Pride Month
June 1-3 Shavuot
June 6-7 Eid-al-adha
June 19 Juneteenth

July

Disability Pride Month
July 4 Independence Day

August

Wellness Month
Black Business Owners Month
August 9 International Day of the Worlds' Indigenous People
August 26 Women's Equality Day

September

Hispanic Heritage Month
Suicide Prevention Awareness Month
September 1 Labor Day
9/11
September 22-24 Rosh Hashanah
September 26 Michigan Indian Day

October

October 1-2 Yom Kippur
October 13 Indigenous People's Day
October 20 Diwali

November

Native American Heritage Month
November 1-2 Day of the Dead
November 2 All Souls Day
November 11 Veteran's Day
November 13 World Kindness Day
November 20 Trans Day of Remembrance

December

Hanukkah December 14-22
Christmas December 25
Kwanzaa December 26 – January 1
New Year's Eve December 31