



**CITY OF MADISON HEIGHTS**

**LIBRARY - BRECKENRIDGE ROOM, 240 W. 13 MILE RD.**

**HUMAN RELATIONS AND EQUITY COMMITTEE MEETING  
AGENDA**

**JUNE 09, 2022 AT 6:00 PM**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS**

**Approval of the minutes of May 5, 2022**

- [1.](#) Minutes from May 5, 2022.

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**REPORTS**

2. Advice & Educate
3. Communications
4. Fundraising
- [5.](#) Volunteers & Collaborations

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

6. Juneteenth Update
7. Arts & Pride Event Update

**NEW BUSINESS**

- [8.](#) HREC Recommendation for Gender Identification in Registration Procedures

**ADJOURNMENT**

**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](mailto:clerks@madison-heights.org) at least two working days in advance of the meeting. An attempt will be made to make reasonable accommodations.



**CITY OF MADISON HEIGHTS**

**CITY HALL - MADISON ROOM - 300 W. 13 MILE RD, MADISON HEIGHTS, MI 48071**

**HUMAN RELATIONS AND EQUITY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**MAY 05, 2022 AT 6:00 PM**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

by Szymanski at 6:03 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT**

Nickole Fox  
Council Alternate Quinn Wright (Non-Voting)  
Vice-Chair Paige Szymanski  
Alternate Sandra Quackenbush  
Alternate Kevin Wright  
Council Representative Emily Rohrbach

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Vanessa Verdun-Morris, Staff Liaison

**ABSENT**

Rebecca Chambliss  
Amy Guzynski  
Jessica Tutt

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS**

**Add Closing Remarks before Adjournment, and add Arts & Pride Picnic and Flag Raising Recommendation under New Business.**

Motion made by Council Representative Rohrbach, Seconded by Alternate Wright.  
Voting Yea: Fox, Vice-Chair Szymanski, Alternate Quackenbush, Alternate Wright, Council Representative Rohrbach

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Jennifer Nagle from the Arts Board introduced herself as the presenter for the Arts & Pride Picnic partnership proposal.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**1. Approval of Minutes of April 7, 2022**

Motion made by Council Representative Rohrbach, Seconded by Vice-Chair Szymanski.  
Voting Yea: Fox, Vice-Chair Szymanski, Alternate Quackenbush, Alternate Wright, Council Representative Rohrbach

**REPORTS**

## 2. Advise & Educate

Fox reported that four pieces of social media content were created for Mental Health Awareness Month in May. safeTALK (suicide alertness for everyone: tell, ask, listen, keep safe) training is tentatively scheduled for September at Fire Station 1 with host Madison Heights Community Coalition. Local school leadership is focusing on suicide awareness.

## 3. Communications

Vice-Chair Szymanski reported that social media posts are ongoing and the Social Hour will be held on May 18 at 7 p.m. at Augie's Bar & Grill.

## 4. Fundraising

Council Representative Rohrbach reported that the native plant and book sale partnership with the Friends of the Library is will occur in the summer at time that does not compete with the ECC plant sales. A list of possible dates has been compiled, but the final date not yet selected. Volunteers for the day of the sale will be needed.

## 5. Volunteers & Collaborations

Council Alternate Wright reported that the book discussion is being finalized by the subcommittee. The Arts & Pride partnership will be discussed at this meeting. Drag queen story time may be an upcoming event.

## 6. Volunteers & Collaboration - Book Discussion

Council Alternate Wright reported Library Coordinator Hames recommendation for the June book discussion not #1 Book Choice listed in packet. Instead, she recommends #2 Book Choice: *Detransition Baby* by Torrey Peters.

# UNFINISHED BUSINESS

## 7. Juneteenth Event Update

Commissioner K. Wright reported that money allocated for last year will fund "Let's Hear it Again... With Gwen" for \$350, and X. Alexander Durden will recite Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I have a dream" speech as part of his performance for \$500. The subcommittee is also contacting Royalty Dance Studio about a performance, but there is no update on whether they will perform.

# NEW BUSINESS

## 8. Board Roles

Discussion on Board Roles occurred, but no motions were made. Tabled until next meeting by Vice-Chair Szymanski.

## 9. Arts & Pride Picnic.

Presentation by Jennifer Nagle, Arts Board.

### **Partner with Arts Board to co-host Arts & Pride Picnic on June 11 at 4 p.m.**

Motion made by Fox, Seconded by Council Representative Rohrbach.

Voting Yea: Fox, Vice-Chair Szymanski, Alternate Quackenbush, Alternate Wright, Council Representative Rohrbach

## 10. Flag Raising Recommendation

**HREC recommends to City Council to raise the Progress Pride Flag during the month of June and the Juneteenth Flag for the weekend of Juneteenth.**

Motion made by Council Representative Rohrbach, Seconded by Alternate Quackenbush.

Voting Yea: Fox, Vice-Chair Szymanski, Alternate Quackenbush, Alternate Wright, Council Representative Rohrbach

### **CLOSING REMARKS**

Alternate Quackenbush reported that the parks board is promoting Treads on Tuesdays walking club for Mental Health Month in May, and asks that HREC Committee members also promote via their social networks. Physical activities like walking are one way to improve mental health.

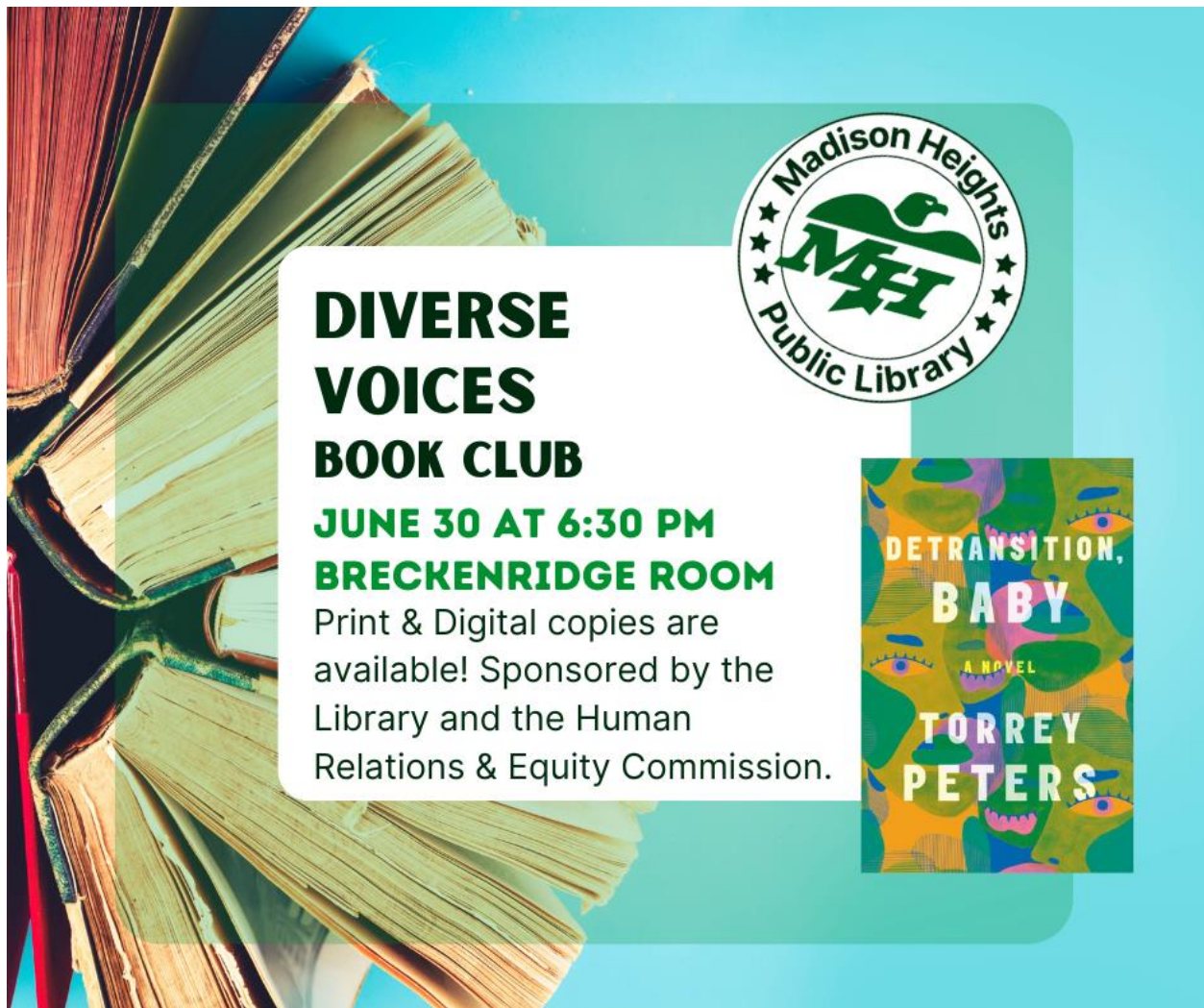
### **ADJOURNMENT**

By Vice-Chair Szymanski at 7:08 p.m.

## Volunteers & Collaborations

Diverse Voices Book Club

June 30, 2022



**DIVERSE  
VOICES  
BOOK CLUB**

**JUNE 30 AT 6:30 PM  
BRECKENRIDGE ROOM**

Print & Digital copies are available! Sponsored by the Library and the Human Relations & Equity Commission.

**DETRANSITION,  
BABY**  
A NOVEL  
**TORREY  
PETERS**

10 print copies ordered and available at the Library

Audiobook and ebook available on-demand on Libby or [www.tln.overdrive.com](http://www.tln.overdrive.com)

## HREC Recommendation for Gender Identification for Registration Procedures

Inspiration for this discussion is a Facebook post on one of the city forum pages:

Hi 😊 so I went to register my gender creative kiddo for some activities run by the Madison Heights rec department. I was pretty frustrated and honestly, upset, that the system made me choose a gender and I was only given the options of male or female. Those options exclude my kiddo. So my question is, has anyone else run into this, and does anyone know what my next steps might be to actually get this changed? I am aiming for inclusivity. Why force someone to pick a gender when painting fairy houses? Why not add more options?