

**CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
CITY HALL, CONFERENCE ROOM 2B, 420 N. POKEGAMA AVE.**

DATE: JANUARY 2, 2019

TIME: 4:00 P.M.

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.*

4:00 CALL TO ORDER:

CALL OF ROLL:

Commissioner Hall
Commissioner Ensley-Vice Chair
Commissioner Learmont
Commissioner Friesen
Vacant

Commissioner Schirber
Commissioner Noyce
Commissioner Weidendorf
Commissioner Moren-Chair

SETTING OF AGENDA:

This is an opportunity to approve the agenda as presented or add/delete an
Agenda item by a majority vote of the Commission members present.

PUBLIC FORUM:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November 28, 2018 Regular Meeting

- 2019 Work Plan Development

ADJOURNMENT:

CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

CALL TO ORDER: Pursuant to due notice and call thereof a regular meeting of the Grand Rapids Human Rights Commission was held in Conference Room 2B, Grand Rapids City Hall, Grand Rapids, Minnesota, on Wednesday, November 28, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

CALL OF ROLL: On a Call of Roll, the following members were present: Commissioners Alice Moren, Deanna Ensley, Doug Learmont, Melissa Weidendorf, Karen Noyce, Lea Friesen, and John Schirber.

Absent: Frieda Hall

CALL TO ORDER Commissioner Ensley called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

SETTING AGENDA

Addition:

- Discussion with Arts & Culture Commission
- Meeting date change for December meeting

Motion by Commissioner Schirber, second by Commissioner Ensley to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES October 31, 2018 Regular Meeting

Motion by Commissioner Noyce, second by Commissioner Schirber to approve minutes for October 31, 2018 as presented. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

PRESENTATION:

Sonja Merrild & Kathy Dodge, representing the Arts & Culture Commission, discuss the Art Adoption and Acquisition plan for the City. In answer to the request for the A&C Commission to purchase the Busticogan painting by Tom Page created for the Indigenous Peoples Day event, there are no remaining funds for 2018, and the process for the A&C to purchase art must go through an acquisition process.

FINANCIALS

Invoices in the total amount of \$30.00 submitted for Immigration Education series expense:

- Rapids Printing \$30.00

Motion by Commissioner Schirber, second by Commissioner Learmont to approve the payment of invoice from Rapids Printing for expenses related to Immigration Education Series to be paid out of Blandin Grant in the total amount of \$30.00 and accept the financial statement as presented. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT/ACCOLADES

It is noted that there was very good feedback on the IPD event.

CIRCLE OF HEALING

- Working with schools and ICC for hiring more Native American teachers.
- Leech Lake Tribal Council has agreed to help fund playground project.

- Working on plan to foster collaboration with Forest Service and Leech Lake Band in management plan for national forest.

BIG VIEW UPDATE

Plans are underway for annual Journey dinner awards and recognition program to be held at the library on December 5th. Upcoming event in January 2019 to host Big View in conjunction with Children's Defense Fund.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Indigenous People's Day:** Commissioner Ensley presents correspondence from Katie Marshall, MacRostie Art Center, regarding collaboration for the 2019 Indigenous Peoples Day. MacRostie may co-sponsor a two-month exhibit; cost is \$900.00. This falls in line with the plan for 2019 focus on Native American artists. Other sponsors will be sought to help cover exhibit expense. Commissioner Ensley will contact Katie to indicate interest, but need to finalize budget plan at January 2, 2019 meeting. The painting by Tom Page of Busticogan done for the 2018 event is available to be purchased by the City for \$650.00. As there will be room in this years' funds, the following motion was made.

Motion by Commissioner Friesen, second by Commissioner Learmont to purchase the painting of Busticogan by Tom Page for a total amount of \$650.00. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- **Discuss work plan development:** Members will submit suggestions for work plan items to the City Clerk no later than December 20, 2018. These will be compiled and returned for ranking by each member and brought to the work plan meeting for consideration. Recommendation is made to review by-laws and ordinance to ensure plan ideas are in-line with goals and responsibilities of the Commission.
- **Advocates for Human Rights Presentation:** Discussed expenses related to the presentation "Refugees, Immigrants and the Law."

Motion by Commissioner Schirber, second by Commissioner Learmont to approved expenses related to "Refugees, Immigrants and the Law" for an amount not to exceed \$700.00. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

- **Green Card Voices:** Additional presentation has been scheduled for Tuesday, December 4, 2018 at 10:00 am at the Reif Center. This will be open to the public and contact has been made with the Grand Rapids High School to encourage attendance by students.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Discuss possibility of changing date of December meeting:** Due to the holidays, staff requested that the meeting be moved to January 2, 2019 for the Work Plan discussion.

Motion made by Commissioner Weidendorf, second by Commissioner Friesen to reschedule December 26, 2018 meeting to Wednesday, January 2, 2019. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

CALLS/COMPLAINTS/INQUIRIES:

None.

Items for next agenda:

- Work Plan Development

With no other business, Commissioner Moren adjourned the meeting at 5:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk

