

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

**DATE: APRIL 25, 2018**

**TIME: 4:00 P.M.**

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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.*

4:00 CALL TO ORDER:

CALL OF ROLL:

	Present	Absent
Commissioner Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Ensley	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Learmont	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Noyce – Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Weidendorf - Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Moren	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Schirber	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SETTING OF REGULAR 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:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:            March 28, 2018 Regular Meeting

GUEST:            Overview of Open Meeting Law & Public Fund Expenditures – Chad Sterle, City Attorney

FINANCIALS:

PUBLIC COMMENT/ACCOLADES:

CIRCLE OF HEALING UPDATE:

BIG VIEW UPDATE:

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

CALLS/COMPLAINTS/INQUIRIES:

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, March 28, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

**CALL OF ROLL:** On a Call of Roll, the following members were present: Commissioners Karen Noyce, Doug Learmont, Melissa Weidendorf, John Schirber, Frieda Hall, Jessica Hartshorn, Alice Moren and Deanna Ensley

**Absent:** Commissioner Charles Harrison

\*Noted: Charles Harrison was appointed by the City Council on March 26<sup>th</sup>, but has since indicated that he does not wish to serve. His resignation will go to Council on April 9<sup>th</sup> and staff will begin the process of filling the vacancy.

**Staff:** Kim Gibeau

**Visitor:** Due to a conflict, Attorney Sterle will present at the April meeting.

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

### **SETTING AGENDA**

Additions:

- Election of Officers
- We are all Criminals follow up

**Motion by Commissioner Hall, second by Commissioner Moren to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**Guest:** Hashan, BSU student, attended to discover the function of the Human Rights Commission.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** January 31, 2018 Regular Meeting

**Motion by Commissioner Learmont, second by Commissioner Hartshorn to approve minutes for January 31, 2018. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**FINANCIALS** Noted that the bill from ICC for the sponsorship of “Navigating Information in a Post-Truth Era” has been received.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT/ACCOLADES**

None.

### **CIRCLE OF HEALING**

Update included meeting review, youth project in Ball Club, \$50,000 grant received for Intro to Teaching Class, emphasizing culturally responsible teaching.

### **BIG VIEW UPDATE**

“One Crisis Away” event had 220 participants at community workshop. Two smaller workshops for Itasca County Human Services and Grand Rapids Police Dept. had 23 and 21 participants, respectively. Commissioner Moren will follow up with ICHS and GRPD for feedback.

## OLD BUSINESS

None.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Mission Statement:** Commissioner Schirber believes the Mission Statement of the Human Rights Commission should have a greater visibility and would like consideration to have this placed at the top of every meeting agenda.

**Motion by Commissioner Schirber, second by Commissioner Hall to approve changing agenda format to include the mission statement as an additional heading. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**2018 Indigenous People's Day:** Need to form a committee consisting of 2 or 3 members. This year's event theme will be "Focus on People." Commissioners Ensley, Schirber, Noyce, and Hall will serve as planning committee.

**Ideas for hosting series of programs:** Suggestions included creating an annual plan and holding 3 or 4 day workshops bringing knowledge of nationwide issues to local residents.

**Motion by Commissioner Hall, Second by Commissioner Moren to move forward with developing an annual plan. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**Response to hate materials:** Response should be proactive. Counter with positive statements without lending weight to negative materials. Basically, don't give it airtime.

**MLK Day:** This item was dismissed from the agenda.

**Update on "We are all Criminals":** This group continues to meet. Commissioner Noyce is stepping down from this committee, but Commissioner Moren will continue as Human Rights representative.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Commissioner Hartshorn announces her intent to resign. She has accepted a position with Clemson University and will be moving within a few months.

Commissioner Learmont recommends deferring the appointment of new officers, maintaining current appointments until a later date. As Commission Chair, Melissa Weidendorf, does not wish to continue. Following discussion, the following motion was made:

**Motion by Commissioner Noyce, second by Commissioner Schirber to appoint Commissioner Moren as Chair and Commissioner Ensley as Vice-Chair. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

## ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

- Regular agenda items

**CALLS/COMPLAINTS/ACCOLADES:**

Commissioner Weidendorf noted that an individual had left a message stating they had a human rights complaint, but did not leave name and number and have not called again.

Hashan, took a couple of minutes to thank the Commission for their work and offer his perspective on ways that this group could really make an impact.

**Motion by Commissioner Schirber, second by Commissioner Noyce to adjourn the meeting at 5:22 pm. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Respectfully submitted:

Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk

The next regular meeting is April 25, 2018.

**CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS  
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

**SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES  
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING APRIL 30, 2018**

	<u>Actual 4/30/2018</u>
<b>Human Rights Budgeted Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>
One Crisis Away Campaign Feb18	500
Speaker Sponsors ICC Conference Mar18	500
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	-
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	-
	<u>-</u>
Balance Available	<u><u>\$ 4,000</u></u>

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