

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

DATE: FEBRUARY 28, 2018

TIME: 4:00 P.M.

4:00 CALL TO ORDER:

CALL OF ROLL:

	Present	Absent
Commissioner Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner LaPlant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Learmont	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Mimmie	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Loyce - Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Weidendorf - Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Hartshorn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Moren	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Schirber	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

CANCELLED DUE TO LACK OF QUORUM

MEETING PROTOCOL POLICY:

Please be aware that the Council has adopted a Meeting Protocol Policy which informs attendees of the Council's desire to conduct meetings in an orderly manner which welcomes all civil input from citizens and interested parties. If you are unaware of the policy, copies (orange color) are available in the wall file by the Council entrance.

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: January 31, 2018 Regular Meeting

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

FINANCIALS:

PUBLIC COMMENT/ACCOLADES:

CIRCLE OF HEALING UPDATE:

ITASCA DIVERSITY UPDATE:

BIG VIEW UPDATE:

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS: Mission Statement on Agendas
2018 Indigenous Peoples Day Plans
Ideas for hosting series of programs
Contingency plan on response to hate materials
MLK Day plans

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, January 31, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

CALL OF ROLL: On a Call of Roll, the following members were present: Commissioners Becky LaPlant, Karen Noyce, Doug Learmont, Melissa Weidendorf, John Schirber and Alice Moren

Absent: Mary Jo Wimmer, Frieda Hall and Jessica Hartshorn

Staff: Kim Gibeau and Vivian Olson-Verke

Visitor: Teresa Alto

CALL TO ORDER Commissioner Weidendorf called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm.

SETTING AGENDA Commissioner Schirber asked that Rack Cards be added to the agenda.

PRESENTATION: Teresa Alto, ICC Association of Arts Program Coordinator, presented a request for Grand Rapids Human Rights Commission to co-sponsor 1 – 2 presenters at the ‘Navigating Information in a Post-Truth Era’ conference March 22, 2018.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER MOREN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER SCHIRBER TO SPONSOR ‘NAVIGATING INFORMATION IN A POST-TRUTH ERA’ AT ICC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES November 27, 2017 Regular Meeting

Correction made to agenda, noting minutes for approval are from November 2018, not December.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LAPLANT, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER NOYCE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 27, 2017. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

FINANCIALS Nothing to report.

PUBLIC COMMENT/ACCOLADES

Commissioner Schirber feels the Community Foreign Exchange Program is incredible, after hosting a student this year. They do an excellent job.

CIRCLE OF HEALING

Commissioner LaPlant informed the Board that ICC received a \$51,000.00 grant to be used for an ‘Intro to Teaching’ course partnering with the Grand Rapids High School for the purpose of increasing the number of native teachers in the Minnesota/Itasca area. Another project will focus on mentoring kids. For example: Ball Club Area youth just built a park with playground, basketball court and feast area. Another possible project would be to capture stories of current and historical impact and could partner with Indigenous People’s Day.

ITASCA DIVERSITY

Commissioners Noyce and LaPlant reported this group appears to have imploded and is re-organizing. They, as well as Commissioner Learmont, have pulled back at this point and are waiting to see how it goes forward. Commissioner Learmont is still involved in the Community Action Group.

BIG VIEW UPDATE

Commissioner Moren brought flyers depicting a new program “One Crisis Away” and reports it has been well received with many phone calls. She also reported the following events:

- Tuesday, February 6, 2016 Workshop on Basic Needs and Services at Blandin Foundation
- Thursday, February 13, 2018 Living on the Edge –A Poverty Simulation by Jodi Pfarr at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church. They are having an Essay Contest in association with this, involving 11 area schools, winners will be recognized at the February 26, 2018 Big View Meeting. They are asking for \$500.00 to sponsor the Big View event.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SCHIRBER, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER LAPLANT TO APPROVE SPONSORING “ONE CRISIS AWAY” PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500.00. Motion passed by majority vote, Commissioner Moren abstained.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Schirber had the new rack cards with the names and phone numbers of current members. He distributed them to all the racks he was aware of, but would appreciate input if he missed any. He stated he only got about 250 as the names will be changing, but feel the cards could be updated with stickers. He also has 3 boxes of archival information and will hold them with the rack cards.

NEW BUSINESS

- The 2018 Indigenous People’s Day theme is “PEOPLE”. Commissioner Weidendorf suggested a sub-committee be formed. Commissioner Noyce suggested profiles both contemporary and historical. The sub-committee will include Commissioners Hall, LaPlant and Noyce, who will report monthly to the Board.
- Commissioner Noyce brought up the KKK leaflets distributed in Hibbing on MLK Day. There was discussion as to whether we have a contingency plan, or need a plan and what would we do if it happened in Grand Rapids.
- MLK Day was discussed. Some suggestions are to partner with ICC or have a series of speakers regarding DAKA, Immigration, Transgender, White supremacy, etc. in an effort to educate, and possibly forming a sub-committee.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

- Discuss ideas for hosting a series of programs for the community.
- Discuss plans for acknowledging/celebrating MLK Day.

CALLS/COMPLAINTS/ACCOLADES:

Commissioner Noyce mentioned an ironic writing in 'THE WEEK' publication that was good.

There being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 5:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted: *Vivian Olson-Verke*

The next regular meeting is February 28, 2018.