



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

DATE: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2016

TIME: 4:00 P.M.

4:00 CALL TO ORDER:

CALL OF ROLL:

	Present	Absent
Commissioner Becky LaPlant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Jackie Dowell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Mary Jo Wimmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Frieda Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Doug Learmont	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Melissa Weidendorf, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Karen Noyce, Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Alice Moren	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner John Schirber	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

MEETING PROTOCOL POLICY:

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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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 29, 2016 Regular Meeting / No July Meeting

FINANCIALS:

CORRESPONDENCE:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

CIRCLE OF HEALING UPDATE:

ITASCA DIVERSITY ALLIANCE:

BIG VIEW UPDATE:

OLD BUSINESS: Indigenous Peoples' Day 2016

NEW BUSINESS: Katie Marshall MacRostie Art Center
Growing Anti-Muslim Sentiment
Hate Groups in Grand Rapids
Discussion regarding cancelling meetings

REPORTS ON CALLS AND INQUIRIES:

PENDING COMPLAINTS:

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 of City Hall, Grand Rapids, Minnesota, on Wednesday, June 29, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.

CALL OF ROLL: On a Call of Roll, the following members were present: Commissioners Becky LaPlant, Jackie Dowell, Alice Moren, Frieda Hall and John Schirber

Absent: Karen Noyce, Doug Learmont, Mary Jo Wimmer and Melissa Weidendorf

Visitor: None

Staff: Michele Palkki, Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER Commissioner Hall called the meeting to order at 4:15 pm

SETTING AGENDA Removed Presentation by Allison Ahcan.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES May 25, 2016

Correction on page 2; Joan Bibeau was present and confident that there will be enough funding to support books for K-6 curriculums in IASC (Itasca Area Schools Collaborative)

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DOWELL, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER MOREN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF May 25, 2016 with corrections as noted. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

FINANCIALS

There was nothing to report since the last meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was nothing to report

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one in attendance

CIRCLE OF HEALING

Commissioner LaPlant gave a report regarding the happenings for Circle of Healing.

- Commissioner LaPlant presented the Circles of Support to the Blandin Trustees, it received favorable response.

Circle of Healing Continued

- Some Circle of Healing members met with Healing Roots, which are out of the Twin Cities, to possibly do a pilot in August to help us understand our roots. That was one thing that came through the debriefs from those who attended the Anishinaabe Worldview Training.

ITASCA DIVERSITY ALLIANCE

Commissioner Hall reported that the group is still working on organizational structure.

BIG VIEW

Commissioner Moren reported that she is continuing to work on upcoming topics to present.

OLD BUSINESS

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY

The discussion continues regarding the planning for this event, which will take place the 2nd Monday in October. The sub-committee consists of Commissioners Weidendorf, Noyce, Hall and LaPlant.

Commissioner LaPlant presented the proposal to the City Council at the June 13th Work Session. The proposal defines the next 3 years as to what the Human Rights Commission envisions for the celebration of Indigenous People's day for 2016, 2017 and 2018. The City Council gave their approval to the Commission to move ahead. The subcommittee will meet and bring information back to the Commission.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

The Commission would like to begin conversations about Race.

July Regular Meeting – It was determined that, since there is nothing pressing at this time, the July regular meeting has been cancelled.

The next regular meeting will be held on August 31, 2016.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm

Respectfully submitted, Michele Palkki, Administrative Assistant

**CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

**SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2016**

With Comparative Totals for the Period Ending December 31, 2015

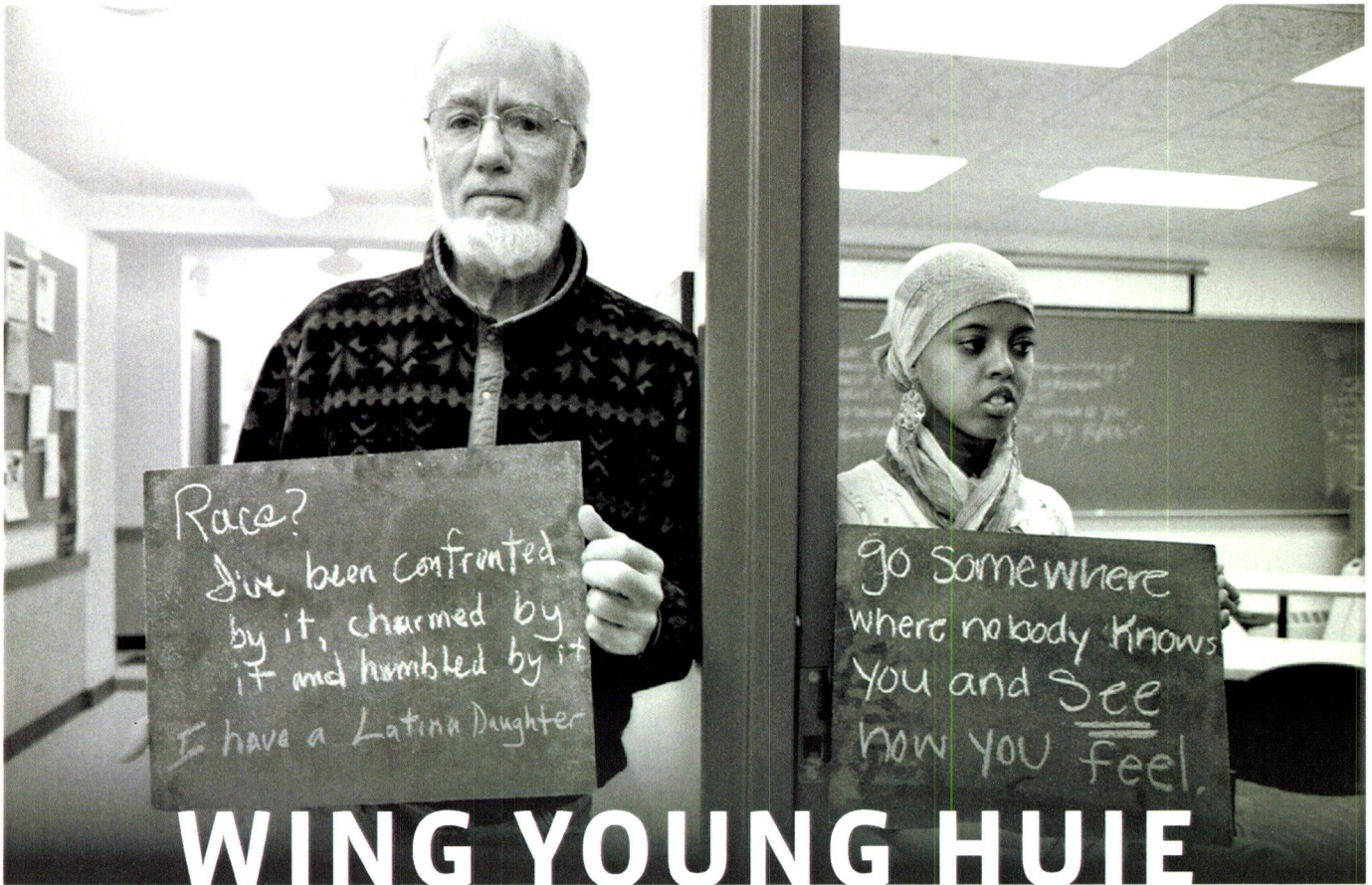
	<u>Actual</u> <u>6/30/2016</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>12/31/2015</u>
Human Rights Budgeted Expenditures	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,000
Brochures	-	-
Poster, Letterhead & Reprints	-	-
Supplies	-	1,734
Copy Supplies	-	52
Video/Books	-	-
Advertising	-	2,355
Dues	100	100
Postage	-	8
Seminars/Meetings/Schools	-	1,350
Speaker Expenses	875	250
Equipment Rental	-	3,496
Honorariums	-	100
City Staff Training	-	-
Contracted Services-Legal	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Balance Available	<u>\$ 4,025</u>	<u>\$ (6,445)</u>

Indigenous People's Day Donations

Blandin Foundation Grant	\$ -	\$ 5,000
Affinity Plus Credit Union	-	50
Itasca Community College	-	300
Miners Inc-Cub Foods	-	100
Northland Foundation	-	1,000
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Other Donations

Arrowhead Regional Arts	3,330	
Balance Available with Donations	\$ 7,355	\$ 5



OCTOBER 2016 | Visiting Artist

Wednesday, October 5, 6 - 7:30 pm
 Stender Community Room, Blandin Foundation
 "How Photographs Form Us"

Thursday, October 6, 1 - 1:50 pm
 Chucker Auditorium, Itasca Community College
 "How Photographs Form Us"

Thursday, October 6, 2 - 2:50 pm
 Chucker Auditorium, Itasca Community College
 "Chalk Talk" workshop

Friday, October 7, 4 - 7 pm
 MacRostie Art Center
 "Absent Narratives" exhibit opening reception

Wing Young Huie has conducted hundreds of lectures and workshops throughout the country and internationally with his many photographic projects that reflect America's dizzying and changing cultural landscape. During his brief stay in the Grand Rapids area, he'll present "How Photographs Form Us" and teach a "Chalk Talk" workshop; an opportunity for community members to take their own photographs. All events are free and open to the public. **Don't miss these opportunities to explore culture and identity through the lens of art.**

macrostieartcenter.org | 218.326.2697



This activity is made possible in part by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

http://www.grandrapidsmn.com/opinion/letters_to_editor/grand-rapids-a-diverse-and-welcoming-community/article_a0603bd6-6efa-11e6-82ea-6f76e235fd77.html

<

PREVIOUS

PROMOTE HEALTHY FOODS IN OUR SCHOOLS

>

NEXT UP

KEEP TOM ANZELC WORKING FOR THE PEOPLE OF DISTRICT 5B

GRAND RAPIDS: A DIVERSE AND WELCOMING COMMUNITY

19 hrs ago

At one time, this area was populated only by the First People who lived among the lakes, rivers and forests that we all now call “home.” Those who immigrated here from Europe centuries later formed new communities. They came to harvest the timber, farm the thin soils, work in the mines or to escape persecution in their homeland. Like the First People, they endured the harsh climates but appreciated the bountiful natural resources.

Each new wave of immigrants was greeted with suspicion. They were different from “us.” They had different customs, different ways of dressing and speaking. Yet, over time, we have learned to see these differences as strengths which make our communities richer. As Americans, we have learned to accept and embrace these differences that once set us apart. They are part of a rich cultural mosaic, a nation we call “America.”

Except for the First People, Grand Rapids is a diverse community of immigrants. With each passing year we are becoming more diverse, and our community is changing. Sometimes we fear this change, which is normal, but as those who came before us have taught us, change results in a better community. After all, we can’t stop change. We can decide how we are going to react to change. As a community, we can choose to fear it, embrace it, talk about it or pretend it isn’t happening.

● We should pause and reflect upon the lessons provided by those who came before us. We are all unique. We all have something to contribute. There is goodness in this world and sadly there is evil in this world, too. No one group has cornered the market on either. Grand Rapids is a safe community, one that has been and should remain a welcoming, inclusive, diverse community. There is enough room for all of us to call Grand Rapids “home.”

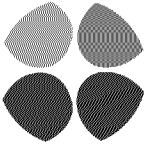
A final thought: the goal of any terrorism is to create fear and to alter our way of life. Fear drives us apart. We don't want fear to drive our community apart. We believe we—as a community—can remain curious about and welcoming of other cultures.

Dale Christy

Frieda Hall

Melissa Weidendorf

● Ed Zabinski



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