



**CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
CITY HALL, CONFERENCE ROOM 2B, 420 N. POKEGAMA AVE.
DATE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2015
TIME: 4:00 P.M.**

4:00 CALL TO ORDER:

CALL OF ROLL:

	Present	Absent
Commissioner LaPlant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Dowell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Wimmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Hall, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Learmont	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Sanderson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Noyce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Vacancy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Vacancy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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: February 25, 2015 Regular Meeting

FINANCIALS: 1st Quarter

CORRESPONDENCE:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

CIRCLE OF HEALING UPDATE:

<p>OLD BUSINESS:</p>	<p>“Anishinaabe Worldview Training” Indigenous People’s Day Celebration Update “Big View”</p>	<p>Becky LaPlant Barb Sanderson Karen Noyce</p>
----------------------	---	---

NEW BUSINESS:

REPORTS ON CALLS AND INQUIRIES:

PENDING COMPLAINTS:

OTHER:

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, February 25, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.

CALL OF ROLL: On a Call of Roll, the following members were present: Commissioners: Hall, Weidendorf, Sanderson, LaPlant, Nichols, Noyce, Dowell, and Learmont. Absent: Freeman.

Staff Present: Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m.

ADDITIONS:

- Update on webpage
 - Emerald Ice Figure Skating Club
 - Accessibility event
 - Citizen's Academy
- Commissioner Noyce has applied to attend the upcoming Citizen's Academy with the Grand Rapids Police Department. There are still openings if any other members wish to attend. Applications can be obtained from GRPD.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Notice has been received that the Emerald Ice Figure Skating Club is planning to wear Pocahontas costumes for an upcoming skating performance. The Commission has concerns that this may be offensive. Commissioner LaPlant will follow up with the skating club and report back to the Commission at a future meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **January 28, 2015 meeting**

Correction request for Circle of Healing Update regarding Commissioner Sanderson speaking at the Why Treaties Matter dedication ceremony. Changes will be made to official minutes and forwarded to City Council for acknowledgement.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SANDERSON, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER WEIDENDORF TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 28, 2015 AS AMENDED. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

FINANCIALS: Noted current information available.

CIRCLE OF HEALING UPDATE:

Working on many upcoming projects in 2015 including:

- Community conversations about race
- Working with students

2015 Goals & Plans:

Bukata Hayes, who visited and presented in Grand Rapids in January 2014, is interested in returning to the community. Commissioner Sanderson would like to collaborate with the Chamber, having Mr. Hayes present at a Chamber luncheon, hopefully partnering to share the cost. Requires approval by the Chamber program committee. Barb will follow up with Bud Stone.

Grand Rapids Police Dept:

Members are interested in possibly having a Commissioner also serve on the Police Community Advisory Board. Interim Chief Johnson is interested in training opportunities for himself and the department. Staff will forward board outline to Commission members.

Anishinaabe Worldview Training:

Circle of Healing is interested in having presenter from Northwest Indian OIC in Bemidji come to Grand Rapids. This is a four day training but could be condensed for a smaller group. Will likely seek co-sponsorship from the Human Rights Commission. Commissioner LaPlant will obtain more information and bring back at a later meeting.

Indigenous People's Day Celebration:

Commission will plan a day or week to hold community events in celebration of Indigenous People's Day in Grand Rapids. Commissioner Sanderson would prefer events take place in and surrounding City Hall. Suggestions included arts, music, food, speakers. Celebration Committee will consist of Barb, Karen and Frieda. Barb will talk to Tom Pagel and ask that he also become involved and see other individuals/groups to support/plan the events.

Commission Terms & Openings:

This is the last official meeting for Commissioners Weidendorf and Nichols. Both would like to continue receiving meeting information. New member, Mary Jo Wimmer, was appointed to the Commission on Monday, February 23, 2015 at the regular City Council meeting. Commissioner Darlene Freeman has indicated that she not be able to continue serving, but no official resignation has been received. Upon receipt of her resignation, staff will take to Council for acceptance and authorization to fill the vacancy. There is currently one vacant position. Individual members will talk to others who may be interested in serving.

Accessibility event:

Lee Isaacs and Myrna Peterson are hosting a wheelchair event at the IRA Civic Center on March 16th to raise awareness for accessibility funding and transportation.

Website:

Site has been updated with current information. Specific images cannot be inserted on to individual pages for Boards & Commissions on the City website. Events and specific notifications, such as Commission vacancies, can be posted on the City homepage for a period of time.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER WEIDENDORF, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER NICHOLS TO
ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 5:20 PM. Motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted, Kimberly Gibeau, City Clerk

**CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

**SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2015**

With Comparative Totals for the Period Ending December 31, 2014

	<u>Actual 2/28/2015</u>	<u>Actual 12/31/2014</u>
Human Rights Budgeted Expenditures	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Brochures	-	374
Poster, Letterhead & Reprints	-	-
Supplies	-	-
Copy Supplies	-	34
Video/Books	-	20
Advertising	-	-
Dues	100	100
Postage	-	3
Seminars/Meetings/Schools	-	599
Speaker Expenses	250	300
Healing Journey Deficit	-	-
Flag Installation Placques	-	-
City Staff Training	-	-
Contracted Services-Legal	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Balance Available	<u><u>\$ 2,650</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,571</u></u>

Circle of Healing – Chaordic Stepping Stones Part 3

March 24, 2015

11 am – 1 pm YMCA

Meeting Notes

Present: Colleena Bibeau, Noreen Hautala, Terry Stephens, Cheri Stephens, Karen Noyce, Gerald White, Isaac Meyer, Leah Monroe, Carolyn Eck, Laurie Eide, Darlene Freeman, Kathy Annette, Joan Bibeau, Harold Annette, Korey Wahwassuck, Benjamin Braff, Becky LaPlant

Purpose: Take courageous actions, based in cultural competency and awareness, that create and support conditions for Native and non-native people to connect in ways that promote mutual growth and cultural understanding, and address real-world needs.

Agenda

- Circle Check-in
- Continue walking the Chaordic Stepping Stones w/focus on Principles and Concepts
- Stepping into the work
- Updates and Check-out

Circle Check-in

Becky welcomed everyone and opened the Circle with a story, [Manabozho and the Maple Trees](#), from the [native-language.org](#) website. After the story we learned that traditional storytelling is reserved for the winter months, for practical reasons and reasons based on belief. Stories both entertain and teach children (and adults) how to be in the world. After the story we checked-in with our name, where we call home and one thing we look forward to in the spring, which included an array of sights, sounds, smells, sensations and activities.

Continue walking the Chaordic Stepping Stones...

In January we started walking the [Chaordic Stepping Stones](#) of need, purpose, principles, people, concept, limiting beliefs, structure, practice and harvest. With a nod to the work we've done on need and purpose, we moved on to principles.

Principles

Anishinaabe worldview includes the Seven Grandfather Teachings of Inendizowin (Humility), Zoongide'iwin (Courage), Manaaji'idiwin (Respect), Nibwaakaawin (Wisdom), Debwewin (Truth), Gwayakwaadiziwin (Honesty) and Zaagi'idiwin (Love). We took a deeper look at the teachings. Using the Fist-to-Five voting method, we adopted the Seven Grandfather Teachings as our principles.

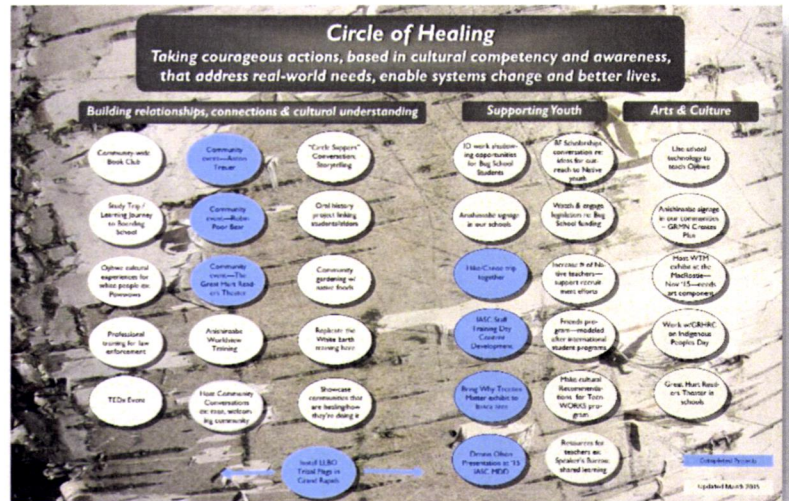


Image from Leech Lake Tribal College website <http://www.lltc.edu/about/guiding-principles>

Concepts

The handout to the right includes ideas that the group has generated over time, including ideas that came out of our February 2015 meeting.

The group used the handout to identify the concepts that we want to develop over the next 12 – 18 months. First they worked individually to identify the top five concepts they have passion and energy to work on. Then they got in groups of three to share their concepts and identify up to three advance to the whole group. Through this process, some of the concepts were combined and some were not carried forward at this time. Here's where we landed:



People self-identified as concept team leads and members. We had a short discussion about the concepts selected how we wanted to proceed, as a whole group or in committees, coming together as a big group less frequently. No decision was made about this.

Updates

- Karen informed the group that there are vacancies on the Grand Rapids Human Rights Commission. Commissioners can come from outside Grand Rapids. Information is on the City of Grand Rapids website homepage: <http://cityofgrandrapidsmn.com/>
- Anishinaabe Worldview Training will be at the Grand Rapids YMCA; April 9, 10, 16 from 9 am – 4 pm and April 17 from 9 am – noon.
- Sanford Center Bemijigamaag Powwow is April 4; 1 – 10 pm

We closed the Circle with one or two words about the meeting experience and adjourned at 1 pm.

Miigwech, thank-you, to those of you who arrived early and helped me setup the space, and those of you who stayed after and helped tidy up. I very much appreciate your assistance. Becky

Circle of Healing

Taking courageous actions, based in cultural competency and awareness, that create and support conditions for Native and non-native people to connect in ways that promote mutual growth and cultural understanding, and address real-world needs.

Building relationships, connections & cultural understanding

Local Boarding School Trip

Lead: Carolyn Eck
Team: Isaac Meyer, Cheri & Terry Stephens, Colleena Bibeau

Anishinaabe Worldview/replicate White Earth training

Lead: Terry Stephens
Team: Noreen Hautala, Gerald White, Cheri & Terry Stephens

Host Community Conversations ex: race, welcoming community & Circle Suppers

Lead: Colleena Bibeau
Team: Kathy Annette, Korey Wahwassuck, Noreen Hautala, Terry Stephens

Friends program for inter-national students

Lead: Terry Stephens
Team: Cheri Stephens, Karen Noyce, Carolyn Eck

Indigenous Peoples Day—October 12, 2015

Lead: Grand Rapids HRC
Team:

“Circle Suppers” Storytelling with oral history project linking generations

Lead: Terry Stephens
Team: Benjamin Braff, Cheri & Terry Stephens, Colleena Bibeau

Community gardening w/native foods

Lead: Colleena Bibeau
Team: Joan Bibeau

Supporting Youth

BF Scholarships—ideas for outreach to Native youth

Lead: Darlene Freeman
Team: Leah Monroe, Gerald White

Recruit Native teachers

Lead: Leah Monroe, Gerald White, Darlene Freeman, Joan Bibeau (?), Karen Noyce (?)

Teaching Moments - Resources for teachers ex: Speaker's Bureau; shared

Lead: Leah Monroe, Gerald White, Darlene Freeman, Joan Bibeau

Arts & Culture

Great Hurt Readers Theater in schools (St. Scholastica leads)

Lead: TBD
Team: Noreen Hautala, Gerald White, Cheri & Terry Stephens

Host WTM exhibit at the MacRostie—Nov '15—needs art component

Lead:
Team:

Anishinaabe signage in our community & schools

Lead: Laurie Eide
Team: Isaac Meyer, Benjamin Braff, Karen Noyce



NORA SADEK

STUDENT AT THE DULUTH MEDICAL SCHOOL

AMERICAN OF EGYPTIAN AND NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE | DULUTH, MN

What I really love about Minnesota and Minnesotans is that we are very curious. But sometimes I think we miss asking the questions that will lead to dialogues that we should be having because we try to be overly polite and, you know, that "Minnesota nice." Minnesotans have a wonderful connection with each other because of the environment that we live in. I feel like we have that deeper appreciation of the human struggle more than other states.

Being different is also a struggle, but it's also a gift and, and we're only going to appreciate that gift if we start seeing that just because we have different faiths doesn't mean we're leading totally different lives. We all do the same things—bring out our boots for winter, shovel the driveway, scrape our cars. It's just my daily practice of how I express my faith that's a bit different.