



CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
CITY HALL, CONFERENCE ROOM 2B, 420 N. POKEGAMA AVE.
DATE: MARCH 26, 2014
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 Freeman, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Hall, Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Learmont	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Nichols	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Sanderson	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Weidendorf	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Noyce	<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 26, 2014 regular meeting

FINANCIALS:

CORRESPONDENCE:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

CIRCLE OF HEALING UPDATE:

OLD BUSINESS:

- Homelessness Speaker at MacRostie – March 27th
- Columbus Day Holiday

NEW BUSINESS:

- ICC Collaboration
- Citizen request for assistance – law enforcement records.

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 26, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.

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

Staff Present: Kimberly Johnson-Gibeau

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

ADDITIONS:

1. Response to complaint

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **January 29, 2014 meeting**

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DOWELL, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER WEIDENDORF TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 29, 2013 AS PRESENTED. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

FINANCIALS:

Reviewed updated financial report.

CIRCLE OF HEALING UPDATE:

Update on Why Treaties Matter exhibit: ready to move forward with fundraising and promotion. Grants are being submitted for the exhibit. Request letter of support from the Commission. Also noted that ICC showcasing book, "Life On The Rez."

OLD BUSINESS:

Homelessness Exhibit: Grand opening for exhibit is March 7th at MacRostie Art Center. Grace House will celebrate their two year anniversary by hosting a soup line and tour of the facility on March 13th. Kathy ten Broeke will speak regarding efforts to end homelessness throughout the state on March 27th.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SANDERSON, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HALL TO PURCHASE TWO COPIES OF ICTV VIDEO PRESENTATION ON BUKATA HAYES. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Homelessness exhibit: There are three events scheduled for March to highlight homelessness issues. March 7th is First Friday event and Commission will donate \$150 to MacRostie for participation in the exhibit; March 13th there will be an open house including dinner at the Grace House and March 27th, Cathy Ten brooke, State Director for Preventing Homelessness, will speak at MacRostie. Commission will provide refreshment, left over from Bukata Hayes event, for March 27th engagement.

NEW BUSINESS:

Itasca County's Response to Columbus Day change:

Itasca County is working on processing changes regarding the Columbus Day with a possible change to the holiday name or a change in paid holidays. Discussed various options for addressing this issue with the City and its employees.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SANDERSON, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER WEIDENDORF TO REQUEST THE CITY COUNCIL CHANGE THE NAME OF COLUMBUS DAY TO NATIVE AMERICAN DAY. Motion passed unanimously.

Citizen's Academy:

The Police Department is reserving one spot for a Human Rights Commission member if anyone would like to attend. Karen Noyce will look into her schedule and possibly attend.

Received complaint:

An investigation was completed by the Grand Rapids Police Department regarding a complaint received on behalf of Mr. Otteson-Goldberg. It was determined that the Police Department was not involved in this incident and the matter is closed. Commissioner Hall will write a letter to Police Chief Denny, thanking him for their prompt and thorough response to this matter.

Other:

- Discussed current anti-bullying legislation.
- Discussed Eden Prairie issue of citizens opposed to a day treatment center for children with mental health issues.
- Community Foundation is seeking volunteers to work with residents to assist with applications for propane crisis assistance.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Kimberly Johnson-Gibeau, City Clerk

Kim Johnson-Gibeau

From: Melissa CMH <mweidendorf@cmhsreach.org>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 7:27 AM
To: Kim Johnson-Gibeau
Subject: Fwd: ICC Project Funding

Kim,
This is the request for funds that I have on the agenda for today's meeting.
See you there!
Melissa

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kendra LeClair <Kendra.LeClair@students.itascacc.edu>
Date: March 13, 2014 at 7:05:11 PM CDT
To: "mweidendorf@cmhsreach.org" <mweidendorf@cmhsreach.org>
Subject: ICC Project Funding

Melissa Weidendorf,

Hi, my name is Kendra LeClair. I am a psychology student at Itasca Community College. My partner, Kent Schearer, and I are working to institute a school-based mental health awareness event for our practicum.

Our goal of this project is to eliminate stigma surrounding mental illness and to offer information about it, so students will be able to identify symptoms they may be struggling with and hopefully feel OKAY about asking for and receiving help. The main event would be to have Sam Miltich & his band perform for students for about 90 minutes, weaving in dialogue about his personal experience with mental illness/stigma/recovery in hopes that his music will capture the audience and his dialogue will send a message of recovery, hope, and coping. The conversation my partner, advisor, and I had with him was very inspiring, and he seems to be in a very healthy point in his recovery. It was obvious he knew his stuff and has done plenty of research on mental illness and stigma surrounding it. He is very insightful and I think will add much to the table. He will be a wonderful role model for the students, giving them a sense that you can have a mental illness and still be "normal" and offer hope that by getting help and learning how to cope, their quality of life will be significantly improved. We have a call into Greenway to see if they will let us in and are just waiting to hear back from them. Depending on their decision, we would do classroom (small venue) panels in hopes of more personal Q & A with the students. We envision panels to consist of individuals (hopefully some who are younger and closer to their age) in recovery from MI/CD, possibly a professional, and possibly a family member/parent. If Greenway lets us in, we could have more grades attend because it would be convenient, and Sam's message could touch more people, but then for practical

purposes, focus the smaller, intimate sessions on the 8th graders. Sam is willing to stick around after the performance to talk with the students and offered to be one of the panelists.

At this time, we have received \$600 in donations from the SOS (Stomp On Stigma) Team to support this project. We are still in need of an additional \$600 to pay Sam and his band for their time. If your organization is able to make a contribution to help us make this project happen, it would be greatly appreciated. If you are interested in helping us or need more information, please contact me. My email is ma4659sw@students.itascacc.edu and my telephone number is 218-259-2169.

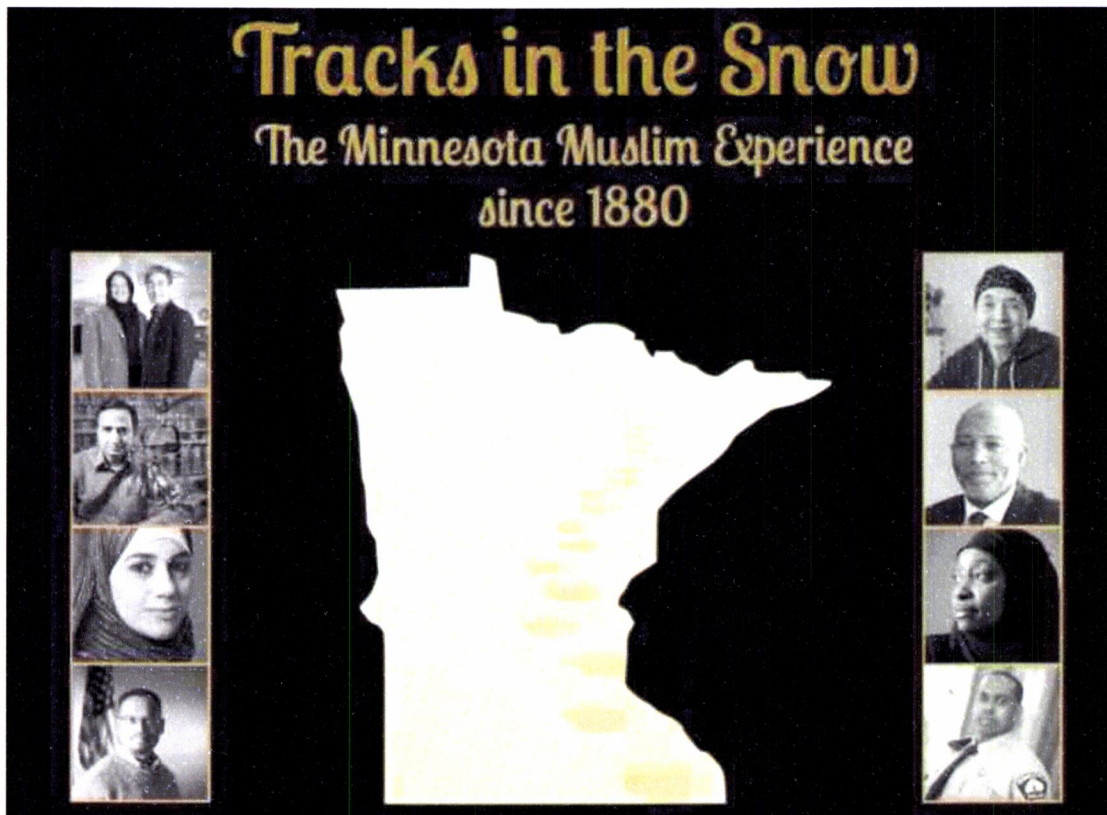
Thank you for your time and consideration,

Kendra LeClair

Islamic Resource Group

"Tracks in the Snow Exhibit" Inaugurated

The Islamic Resource Group (IRG) kicked-off the Tracks in the Snow exhibit by holding a preview event on March 15 at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts and then formally inaugurating it on the Muslim Day at the Capitol on March 19.



Tracks in the Snow is the third phase of the Minnesota Muslim Experience project produced by Islamic Resource Group (IRG) through generous support from the Minnesota Historical Society Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (ACHF). The traveling exhibit is designed to expose Minnesotans to the untold narratives of Minnesota Muslims, a deep-rooted and growing part of the state's community.

This exhibit provides a glimpse into the lives of one of the least known and rapidly expanding populations in America and in Minnesota - the Muslim community.



Exhibit preview at the Minneapolis Institute of Art was well attended and received rave reviews

Keynote Speech



The exhibit preview featured a thought-provoking speech by Dr. Caner Dagli: ***"American Muslim Identity: An Idea Whose Time Has Passed"***

One of the most common phrases to appear in the titles of talks, conferences, books, and articles about the condition of Muslims in the United States is some variation of "American Muslim Identity". This idea is presented as urgent, universal, and consequential. But do we really have

any good idea of what we mean when we say "identity," "American," or even "Muslim" for that matter?

Launch at the State Capitol

On March 19, IRG formally inaugurated the exhibit at the Minnesota Capitol and James Fogerty of Minnesota Historical Society introduced the exhibit to the 200+ audience that was gathered at the Muslim Day at the Capitol (MDAC).



James Fogerty of MN Historical Society inaugurating the exhibit at Muslim Day at the Capitol

IRG plans to take this traveling exhibit around Minnesota. Toward this end, IRG is soliciting interest from organizations to host this exhibit. All inquiries regarding hosting this exhibit should be directed to irg@irgmn.org.