



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

DATE: AUGUST 28, 2013

TIME: 4:00 P.M.

ACTION

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: July 31, 2013 regular meeting

FINANCIALS

CORRESPONDENCE:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

CIRCLE OF HEALING UPDATE:

OLD BUSINESS:

- Follow up on Pat Helmberger's letter/school donation
- Indians as mascots/logo
- Ojibwe Flag Installation update

NEW BUSINESS:

- 2014 Human Rights Essay Contest

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, July 31, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

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

Staff Present: Lynn DeGrio

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

ADDITIONS: Pat Helmberger, Indians as Mascots discussion

Open Meeting Law – Chad Sterle: City Attorney Sterle presents informational memo regarding meetings of government bodies including boards and commissions. Specifically reviewed points of quorum, serial meetings, email conversations-do not “reply to all unless innocuous. Always post a “notice of possible quorum” to be safe.

Commissioner Learmont arrived at 4:15 PM.

Pat Helmberger – Indians as Mascots: Ms. Helmberger discusses the issue of a Native American Headdress being donated to the school district as memorabilia from the time when the school mascot was “Indians.” Ms. Helmberger is the author of “Indians as Mascots in Minnesota Schools” and she is providing a copy of this book to the Library to be part of the Human Rights collection. Commissioner Dowell raised concerns over “Indians Forever” bricks and Commissioner Weidendorf noted that there is a float in the Tall Timber Days parade depicting the same thing. Ms. Helmberger is requesting support for a letter to the School District requesting refusal of the headdress donation. Commissioner Sanderson recommends this letter be sent to the entire school board as well as Joe Silko and Patti Erven.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HALL, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER WEIDENDORF TO SUPPORT MS. PAT HELMBERGER LETTER TO BE SENT TO I.S.D. 318 SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT, SCHOOL BOARD AND PATTI ERVEN.

Commissioner Learmont feels this should be more descriptive of why this is offensive.

The following voted in favor thereof: Freeman, Dowell, Hall, Nichols, Sanderson, Weidendorf. Opposed: Learmont. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **June 26, 2013 regular meeting**

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SANDERSON, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER DOWELL TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 26, 2013 AS PRESENTED. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Correspondence: Commissioner Freeman received a phone call from Ann Clark, Program Committee on Library, regarding Muslim presentation “Women’s Roles in Muslim” are interested in sponsorship. No action taken at this time.

Circle of Healing Update: The Ojibwe Flag Installation will take place on Thursday, September 12, 2013 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. All are invited to attend.

Robin Poor Bear Presentation: Presentation went well. No hitches. Commissioner Sanderson wrote a letter of thanks. Many new friends were made.

Commissioner Hall left the meeting at 5:20 PM.

Homelessness Exhibit at MacRostie: This exhibit has been scheduled for next spring.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Lynn DeGrio, Human Resources Director

**CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

**SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING AUGUST 12, 2013**

With Comparative Totals for the Period Ending December 31, 2012

	<u>Actual 8/12/2013</u>	<u>Actual 12/31/2012</u>
Human Rights Budgeted Expenditures	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
Brochures	-	7
Poster, Letterhead & Reprints	-	-
Supplies	-	113
Copy Supplies	-	
Video/Books	513	-
Advertising	-	-
Dues	100	55
Postage	-	-
Seminars/Meetings/Schools	-	-
Speaker Expenses	-	150
Healing Journey Deficit	632	-
Awards	-	-
City Staff Training	-	-
Contracted Services-Legal	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Balance Available	<u>\$ 1,755</u>	<u>\$ 2,675</u>

Healing Journey Sponsorships	\$ 2,150	
Healing Journey Expenditures		
Amazon-Kind Hearted Woman	34	
Brewed Awakenings	248	
Robin Poor Bear	2,500	
Total Expenditures	<u>2,782</u>	
Surplus/Deficit)	<u>(632)</u>	

League of Minnesota Human Rights Commissions

Annual Essay Contest 2013 - 2014

Contest Rules & Guidelines

1. All sixth, seventh and eighth grade students are eligible to participate by submitting one entry.
2. Essays may be from one to three pages in length.
3. Essay topic:

Prejudice and stereotypes affect the way we perceive and interact with each other, even when we don't realize it. How do stereotypes affect our society and how do they damage human rights?

Reference the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United States Constitution, the United States Bill of Rights or the Minnesota Human Rights Act.

4. Complete and attach an official 2013 - 2014 entry form to the back of the essay. Entry forms from past years will **not** be accepted. Forms **must** be complete and legible.
5. All first place essays selected by local Human Rights Commissions are to be mailed to:

Patricia Nelson, Chair, Essay Contest Committee
League of Minnesota Human Rights Commissions
4100 Lakeview Avenue North
Robbinsdale, MN 55422
patricia_nelson@leagueofmnhumanrights.org

If sending electronically, acceptable formats are Word (.doc, .docx) or .pdf

6. Entry deadline: **February 28, 2014**

Please note that teachers or local Human Rights Commissions usually set earlier deadlines for submission, so to be able to select the first place essay from their class or community. **Only one essay per commission or organization** will be accepted by the League for consideration.

7. Plans for a recognition program for the students whose essays were selected by the League will be announced at a later date. It is tentatively planned for Saturday, April 26, 2014.
8. Awards

First prize	\$500
Second prize	\$350
Third prize	\$200

Only students and teachers whose essays are selected for First, Second and Third Prize or Honorable Mention will be contacted.

League of Minnesota Human Rights Commissions

**2013-2014 Annual Essay Contest
Entry Form**

Please provide all of the information completely and legibly, and attach to the back of the essay before submission:

Student's name: _____

Student's grade: _____

Student's home address (including Zip Code): _____

Best phone number to reach the student: _____

Student's email address: _____

Name of student's parent(s): _____

Daytime phone number(s) for parent(s): _____

Parent(s) email address(es): _____

Name of teacher: _____

School name: _____

School address: _____

Best phone number to reach the teacher: _____

Teacher's email address: _____

As the parent or guardian of _____, I give my permission for the League of Minnesota Human Rights Commissions to publish my student's essay, name and photos from the 2013-2014 Annual Essay Contest in any and all forms of media.

Parent(s) Signature

Date

Parent(s) Signature

Date

This is the official entry form for the 2013-2014 League of Minnesota Human Rights Commission's Annual Middle School Contest. No other form, including those from past years, shall be submitted or accepted.