



CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
GRACE HOUSE – 501 SW 1<sup>ST</sup> AVENUE  
DATE: APRIL 24, 2013  
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"/>

ACTION

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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 27, 2013 regular meeting

FINANCIALS

CORRESPONDENCE:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

OLD BUSINESS:

- Work plan update
- Update on Ethics training for City staff and Law Enforcement

NEW BUSINESS:

REPORTS ON CALLS AND INQUIRIES:

PENDING COMPLAINTS:

OTHER:

ADJOURNMENT:

CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
CONFERENCE ROOM 2A – 420 NORTH POKEGAMA AVENUE  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2013 – 4:00 P.M.

**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 2A of City Hall, 420 North Pokegama Avenue, Grand Rapids, Minnesota, on Wednesday, March 27, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

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

Staff Present: Michele Palkki

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Hall at 4:00 p.m. Introductions were made and new members welcomed.

**SETTING OF REGULAR AGENDA:** Additions to regular agenda:

- Oral History
- Police Department Ethics Workshop

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** February 27, 2013 regular meeting

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SANDERSON, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER NOYCE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 27, 2013 AS PRESENTED. Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Round Table Discussion:

Commissioner Sanderson gave a brief over-view and purpose of the commission. We are here to help and not investigate. Our job is to have a community free of all discrimination. At the State Level, Grand Rapids is seen as a model city. The newest members were asked why they chose to be on the Human Rights Commission; the common response was they wanted to see everyone treated equally and not be discriminated against. Other members stated the same.

Correspondence:

- The commission would like to have an updated directory
- The commission would also like copies of the City Calendar (8 ½ x 11)

Old Business:

- Update on same sex marriage information. A discussion was held regarding this being the last day the Supreme Court is hearing testimony. It was noted that advocacy needs to be stated at a state level and not just locally. Commissioner Dowell noted she had contacted state representative Senator Saxhaug directly and encouraged others to contact their representatives and open a dialogue with them.
- Islamic Art Film Review – members who attended reported it was a good film

New Business

- Circles of Healing – Commissioner LaPlant gave a handout to members present that gave a brief history of what Circles of Healing is. The group is open to everyone and meets monthly. The group has set goals and plans for 2014, which include an art exhibit, and signs around town. Contact Commissioner LaPlant for more information.
- Oral History of Homelessness – Commissioner Sanderson reported that the Grace House is open for groups to come, see the facility, and meet some of their families. It was proposed that the next Human Rights Commission Meeting should meet at the Grace House for their meeting in April. Commissioner Sanderson will check into availability and report to the City so they can prepare the notice of venue change for this meeting.
- Ethics Training for law enforcement on April 9 & 10<sup>th</sup> at the Grand Rapids Fire Hall. The sessions are scheduled from 12:30 – 4:30 pm on April 9 and 8:00 – 12:00 noon on April 10. Commissioners are welcome to attend either session.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Michele Palkki