



CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM 2B – 420 NORTH POKEGAMA AVE.
DATE: FEBRUARY 27, 2013
TIME: 4:00 P.M.

ACTION

4:00 CALL TO ORDER:

CALL OF ROLL:

	Present	Absent
Vacant	<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"/>
Vacant	<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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 30, 2013 regular meeting

FINANCIALS

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Meeting notice for League of Minnesota Human Rights Commission

PUBLIC COMMENT:

OLD BUSINESS:

- Discuss purchase of racism books

NEW BUSINESS:

- Acknowledge resignation of Commissioner Hendrickson
- Discussion of gay rights
- Role of Commission

REPORTS ON CALLS AND INQUIRIES:

PENDING COMPLAINTS:

OTHER:

ADJOURNMENT:

CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
CONFERENCE ROOM 2A – 420 NORTH POKEGAMA AVENUE
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 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, January 30, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

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

Staff Present: Lynn DeGrio, Kimberly Johnson-Gibeau

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chair Freeman at 4:05 p.m.

PRESENTATION: Marcia Anderson, Grand Rapids Area Library Director, discusses Muslim Journeys Bookshelf collection and plans for community events to promote education and awareness. Ms. Anderson also noted another grant opportunity for programs and collections specific to Native American families.

Commissioner Learmont departed the meeting at 4:27 PM.

SETTING OF REGULAR AGENDA: Additions to regular agenda:

- Information packet: LMC Human Rights Commission
- Community training

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November 28, 2012 regular meeting

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SANDERSON, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER WEIDENDORF TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 28, 2012 AS PRESENTED. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Financials: Reviewed preliminary financials.

Correspondence:

- LMC packet was received with various information including annual essay contest and proposed changes to by-laws. City Clerk will contact middle school staff for assistance with essay on a local level. Also included is the invoice for yearly dues for LMC membership.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DOWELL, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER WEIDENDORF TO APPROVE PAYMENT FOR LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA CITIES HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP DUES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Discuss referendum on marriage amendment.

Commissioner Dowell has drafted a letter from the Commission to the City Council referencing local businesses that openly supported the marriage amendment. After further discussion, it is determined that Commissioners wishing to make a statement to the City Council should do so as individuals. Commissioner Sanderson will work on a request for the City Council to make a public statement in support of the Human Rights Commission and rights for all individuals.

Commissioner Hendrickson departed the meeting at 4:52 PM.

Continue discussion on work plan.

Ms. DeGrio has discussed training options and plans with Police Chief, Jim Denny regarding law enforcement personnel. Diversity training can be opened up to all staff, not just law enforcement. Also noted is the need for training regarding open meeting law following new appointments to Commission.

Vacancy on Human Rights Commission.

There is currently a vacancy for an unexpired term and there are two current terms expiring in March 2013. Commissioners Noyce and Learmont both indicate interest in reappointment. These requests will be submitted in written format to the City Council in February. Becky LaPlant has submitted an application of interest and this will also be submitted for consideration.

Appointment of Secretary/Treasurer.

Following the resignation of Andy Mundt, the position of Secretary/Treasurer has remained unfilled. Commissioner Weidendorf volunteers.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SANDERSON, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER NOYCE TO APPOINT MELISSA WEIDENDORF TO THE POSITION OF SECRETARY/TREASURER. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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

Respectfully submitted, Kimberly Johnson-Gibeau, City Clerk



**League of Minnesota Human Rights Commissions
Special Member Meeting**

**Saturday, February 23, 2013
11:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

**American Red Cross Headquarters
1201 West River Parkway
Minneapolis, MN 55454**

Scheduled Appearances by

Kevin Lindsey, Commissioner,
Minnesota Department of Human Rights

Trevor Chandler, Political Director,
Minnesotans United for all Families

The purpose of the meeting is to make an Annual Report to Member Commissions, elect Members to the League's Board, and to share information.

Lunch may be ordered at a cost of \$8.00, cash
Beverages will be provided

Reservations for lunch should be made by noon on Friday, February 22
by email to Libby_fairchild@leagueofmnhumanrights.org

The American Red Cross Headquarters is located in downtown Minneapolis, near the Mississippi River, I-35W and the Guthrie Theater. Parking is free. Registration begins at 10:30 AM.



RECEIVED

FEB 04 2013

CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS

February 4, 2013

City Administration Office
420 N. Pokegama Ave.
Grand Rapids, MN 55744

Re: Human Rights Commission Board

City Admin. Office:

Effective immediately February 4, 2013, I am resigning off of the Human Rights Commission Board. I joined this group in thinking it was about giving direction and leadership to individuals and groups that needed it. Instead what I found was judgmental. I don't want to be a part of a group that criticizes others for having a voice for what they believe in. I didn't think the Human Rights Board was there to criticize those not having the same thoughts, feelings and beliefs as they. I thought it was about respect and direction.

Effective immediately, I am resigning from the Human Rights Commission Board. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a part of the board.



Brenda Hendrickson
31152 Cimarron Trail
Grand Rapids, MN 55744