



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

DATE: MARCH 30, 2011

TIME: 4:00 P.M.

Est. Times

ACTION

4:00 CALL TO ORDER:

CALL OF ROLL:

	Present	Absent
Commissioner Wartchow, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Dowell	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Freeman, Vice Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Hain	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Learmont	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Mundt, Sec'y./Treasurer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner Sanderson	<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.

WELCOME NEW COMMISSIONER: Jacqueline Dowell

WELCOME GUESTS:

SETTING OF REGULAR AGENDA:

This is an opportunity to approve the regular agenda as presented or add/delete by a majority vote of the Councilmembers present an agenda item.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 23, 2011 regular meeting

TREASURERS REPORT:

CORRESPONDENCE:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

GUEST SPEAKER:

OLD BUSINESS:

- Rapids Read and Commission follow-up program
- Spring Accessibility Project
- "Bullied" project update
- Distribution of Islamic Print Information – Commissioner Sanderson
- Essar Steel presentation update – Commissioner Learmont

NEW BUSINESS:

REPORTS ON CALLS AND INQUIRIES:

PENDING COMPLAINTS:

OTHER:

ADJOURNMENT:



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OLD BUSINESS:

Contact/Distribution List Update

Commissioners reviewed the Human Rights Commission Contact Distribution List 2011 distributed at the meeting. In addition to names collected, Commissioners added:

- IASC – see website
- ISD #318 – Superintendent’s Administrative Assistant
- Western Itasca Review (Human Resources Director DeGrio)
- Toni Wilcox – correct spelling of name Toni
- Leech Lake Reservation – contact: Arthur (Archie) LaRose
- Tribal Leader – Ball Club – contact: Robbie Howe-Bebeau

Chair Wartchow encouraged Commissioners to respond with additional names.

TREASURY REPORT (continued):

Budget Update:

Commissioners reviewed the budget for end-of-year 2010 and beginning 2011 as presented. Commissioners confirmed the following on the 2011 budget:

- \$3,000 Blandin Grant
- \$4,000 budget from City of Grand Rapids

OLD BUSINESS (continued):

Discussion – Election of Officers.

The Commission discussed the filling of Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Commissioners felt they could combine the Secretary and Treasurer position. The following motions were made:

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER FREEMAN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HAIN TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER HALL AS VICE CHAIR. The following voted in favor thereof: Freeman, Hain, Wartchow, Downing, Hall, Learmont, Mundt and Sanderson. Opposed: None, motion carried.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SANDERSON SECOND BY COMMISSIONER FREEMAN TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER MUNDT AS SECRETARY/TREASURER. The following voted in favor thereof: Sanderson, Freeman, Wartchow, Downing, Hain, Hall, Learmont and Mundt. Opposed: None, motion carried.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER LEARMONT, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER DOWNING TO CLOSE THE NOMINATIONS. The

following voted in favor thereof: Learmont, Downing, Wartchow, Freeman, Hain, Hall, Mundt, and Sanderson. Opposed: None, motion carried.

Signing of By-Laws.

By-Laws were signed by Chair Wartchow and Secretary/Treasurer Mundt.

Update on the film “Bullied”.

Commissioner Mundt stated they now have six co-sponsors. The film will begin at 6:30 p.m. with the HRC video and then the movie “Bullied”. A small panel discussion will follow. Commissioner Sanderson was asked if she would facilitate the panel discussion to which she agreed. Commissioners Sanderson and Mundt both agreed Thursday, April 7, 2011 would be the best date for the event. Commission Chair Wartchow thanked Commissioner Mundt for being involved in the project.

ICC Update regarding Rapids Read.

Commissioner Freeman stated the English teachers at ICC were unable to make the discussion of “The Latecomer” work but the Library is open to having the speaker. Commission Chair Wartchow stated the Carleton alumni are trying to put together a dinner for the speaker.

Commissioner Sanderson reminded the Commission of the grant request to follow up after the event. Several suggestions were received:

1. Could invite a Hmong artist to exhibit and explain about the story cloth.
2. Farmer’s Market – Agriculture History
3. July Art Fair at MacRostie Art Center – sponsor a Hmong artist to show art and speak.
4. We have Farmer’s Market, University Extension Group, Master Gardeners and FFA at the High School.

Commissioners Sanderson, Learmont and Freeman will get more information on the Farmer’s Market to share with the Commission.

Kathleen Nuccio – update donation amount for fall program.

Commissioners have not heard back on proposed amount of donation.

Essar Steel Update.

Commissioner Learmont has contacted Essar Steel to speak to the Commission. They sound willing to come; however, this week was not convenient. The Commissioners would like notification of date and time when arrangements are made.

The following are suggestions from Commissioners:

1. Get feedback from Commission members to what we would like included in the presentation.
2. Presentation could be at night and open to the public.

3. Looking for collaborative effort between HRC and Essar Steel.

Commissioners expressed their appreciation for Commissioner Learmont's efforts.

Order Brochures:

Commissioner Sanderson requested clarification on who will be ordering the Islamic brochures approved from the last meeting. It was determined Commissioner Sanderson will order. The Commission thanked Commissioner Sanderson for her work.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion with Mayor Adams, Councilman Zabinski and Commissioner Hall.

Commissioner Hall stated the City Council would like the HRC to report to them a few times a year, addressing the City Council at their worksession. Human Resources Director DeGrio will inform the Commission when it would be a beneficial time to present to the Council.

REPORTS ON CALLS AND INQUIRIES:

None reported.

PENDING COMPLAINTS:

No further information at this time on the report from last month.

OTHER:

Human Resources Director DeGrio stated Assistant Chief Schaar would like to invite the Commission to the Citizen's Academy. The following four members shared their positive experiences: Human Resources Director DeGrio, Commissioners: Sanderson, Freeman and Hain. The invitations were emailed last week.

Commissioner Mundt received concerns from high school students. He referred them to appropriate organizations. Commissioner Hain recommended safe@isd318.org – a safe, anonymous place to report.

The Commission currently has one opening. Three Commissioners' terms are up and have interviewed with two City Council members: Mayor Adams and Councilman Zabinski. Commission Chair Wartchow complemented the Commission on 100 percent attendance.

Commission Chair Wartchow reminded Commissioners to put March 1 and 17 at 7:00 p.m. on their calendars to hear two speakers – Concordia Scholar on Hmong and author of “The Latecomer” respectively.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be March 30, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business the following motion was made to adjourn the meeting:

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DOWNING SECOND BY COMMISSIONER FREEMAN TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 5:01 P.M. The following voted in favor thereof: Downing, Freeman, Wartchow, Hain, Hall, Learmont, Mundt and Sanderson. Opposed: None, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Schaefer, Recorder

2011 BOARD AND COMMISSION MEMBERS

HUMAN RIGHT COMMISSION		<i>3 one year terms, 2 two year terms, 2 three year terms, No Residency Required, Meeting held monthly.</i>							
<i>(3 year terms)</i>		Dowell	Jacqueline	816 N. Pokegama Ave.	Grand Rapids, MN 55744	218-212-4132	JacquelineDowell@live.com	3/1/2011	3/1/2014
<i>Vice Chair</i>	Freeman	Darlene	25363 Trout Lakes Acres Rd.	Bovey, MN 55709	218-245-3002:H / 218-322-2461:W	dfreeman@itascacc.edu	5/12/2008	3/1/2011	
	Hain	Lisa	712 NE 6th Avenue	Grand Rapids, MN 55744	218-326-4854	grhains@mchsi.com	3/1/2010	3/1/2013	
							5/12/2008	3/1/2010	
	Hall	Frieda	205 NW 8th Avenue	Cohasset, MN 55721	218-328-6155	hallfrieda@yahoo.com	3/12/2011	3/1/2014	
							10/2/2009	3/12/2011	
	Learmont	R.D.	501 NE 11th Street	Grand Rapids, MN 55744	218-326-0384:H	dlearmon@2z.net	3/1/2009	3/1/2012	
	"	"				(fill unexpired term)	?/??/2008	3/1/2009	
<i>Secretary/Treasurer</i>	Mundt	Andrew	814 NE 3rd Avenue	Grand Rapids, MN 55744	651-233-8499:C	andymundt.mn@gmail.com	10/2/2009	3/1/2012	
	Sanderson	Barbara	1501 SW 3rd Avenue	Grand Rapids, MN 55744	218-326-5446:H	bsanders@paulbunyan.net	3/1/2010	3/1/2013	
	"	"					3/1/2007	3/1/2010	
							7/26/2004	3/1/2007	
	Wartchow	Jeff	316 NE 8th Street	Grand Rapids, MN 55744	218-327-0319:H	jeffwartchow@gmail.com	3/1/2009	3/1/2012	
<i>Chair</i>	"	"				(fill unexpired term)	?/??/2008	3/1/2009	