



City of Northfield

City Hall
801 Washington Street
Northfield, MN 55057
northfieldmn.gov

Meeting Minutes - Draft Human Rights Commission

Monday, December 15, 2025

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

6:00 PM - REGULAR AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

- Present:** 4 - Commissioner Bruce Morlan, Chair Schuyler Vogel, Commissioner Jess Toft and Vice Chair Adam Gebler
- Absent:** 3 - Commissioner Veronica Gamino, Commissioner Kelli Podracky and Commissioner Xiomara Conde Arenas

Also present: Ben Martig, City Administrator; Claudia Garcia, Staff Liaison; Matt Bailey, Meeting Associate; Sam Froehle, Youth Representative (Voting)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Morlan, seconded by Commissioner Froehle, to approve the agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

- Yes:** 5 - Commissioner Morlan, Chair Vogel, Commissioner Toft, Vice Chair Gebler and Froehle

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

BOARD MEMBER AND COMMISSIONER REPORTS

- Commissioner Morlan reported on a local initiative concerning the issue of ICE activity in the community, providing business owners with information on their legal rights and how to interact with ICE agents on their premises. Vice Chair Gebler suggested a subcommittee of the Commission on this issue. Staff Liaison Claudia Garcia and City Administrator Ben Martig provided information on current City efforts regarding the issue such as Know Your Rights outreach. Chair Vogel suggested that the existing Immigration subcommittee address the issue. Commissioner Toft also volunteered to help with outreach to children.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. [25-649](#) 2026 Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration.

The Commission discussed the upcoming 2026 Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration event, including activities and award presentations. Award nominees include Nancy Antoine, the Principal of Bridgewater Elementary School for the individual award and Northfield Supporting Neighbors for the institutional/organizational award.

A motion was made by Commissioner Morlan, seconded by Vice Chair Gebler, to

award by acclamation the Human Rights Awards to Nancy Antoine, Principal of Bridgewater Elementary School and to Northfield Supporting Neighbors.. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Commissioner Morlan, Chair Vogel, Commissioner Toft, Vice Chair Gebler and Froehle

2. [25-650](#) 2025 and 2026 Subcommittees.

No reports from the subcommittees were presented.

STAFF UPDATES

3. [25-651](#) Staff Report.

Staff Liaison Claudia Garcia and City Administrator Ben Martig presented updates from City staff, including the City Council's assumption of the duties of the Housing and Redevelopment Authority. Garcia and Martig responded to questions and comments from the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Vice Chair Gebler, seconded by Commissioner Morlan, to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 p.m. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 - Commissioner Morlan, Chair Vogel, Commissioner Toft, Vice Chair Gebler and Froehle