



Northfield Human Rights Commission MEETING MINUTES RECORD

DRAFT

Meeting: Human Rights Commission

Date: December 14, 2017 **Location:** City Hall **Start Time:** 7:05 PM **Adjourn Time:** 8:54 PM

Members present: Richard deBeau, Mar Valdecantos, Corinne Smith, Justin London, Rigoberto Lazaro; Siri Hoff—Youth Commissioner, Keara Cooney—Youth Commissioner,

Members Absent: Eve Webster, Lucy Miron, Angelique Dietz, Shafqat Igbal, Isaac Riggins—Youth Irvin Corona—Youth Commissioner,

Liaison Present: Ben Martig—City Administrator; Rob Hardy—Northfield School Board

Liaison Absent:

Others present: Revmira Beeby, Larry Fowler

Item	Discussion/Conclusions	Action
Call to Order	Roll call and introduction	A roll call was taken of members present and a quorum was present.
Approval of Agenda	Review	The agenda was approved as presented.
Open Microphone for Residents' to Express Concerns		
Approval of Minutes	Minutes of November meeting.	A motion was made by London and seconded by Hoff to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed.
Presentation		
	None scheduled	
Old Business		
Martin Luther King Community Celebration	Plans for the MLK Celebration were discussed and tasks planned and assigned.	
Human Rights Award	There were three nominations for the award. These were reviewed and Jennifer Lompart was selected. DeBeau will contact Lompart as well as the person who made the nomination to ask that person to introduce her and present her with the plaque.	
New Business		
Election of Officers	Chair: Mar Valdcantos Vice Chair: Justin London Secretary: Angelique Dietz	A motion to accept the nominations was made by Smith and seconded by Hoff. Motion passed.
Annual Report	Commissioners reviewed the annual report, made corrections and additions. London will present to CC.	Motion to accept report was made by Hoff and seconded by Cooney. Motion passed.

Item	Discussion/Conclusions	Action
<p>Visit to Bloomington's Human Rights Commission</p> <p>Letter Supporting a Faribault Human Rights Commission</p>	<p>Commissioners settled on a date to visit a Bloomington's HRC meeting on February 26, 2018.</p> <p>A group of residents in Faribault have been meeting for several months to consider establishing a Human Rights Commission in that city. Valdecantos has been attending planning meetings on a regular basis to support their efforts to create an HRC. Support for this by City Council and other agencies is unclear. There is an option for citizens to create an HRC that does not receive governmental approval, which might be the route for this group. HRC approved a letter of support to send to the Faribault planning group.</p>	<p>A motion made by London and Cooney was passed.</p> <p>A motion to approve the letter of support was made by London, seconded by Cooney, and passed.</p>
Reports from Commission Members		
	<p>deBeau: Expressed appreciation of experience as chair and the work with HRC and city.</p> <p>Valdecantos: Shared story about hospital—English speaking Latina without insurance, went with pain from kidney stones, was sent home a couple of times, and was unable to get into Healthfinders. She finally received the needed operation.</p> <p>Smith: Announced League of Women Voters will be working with a St. Olaf social work class on issues of affordable housing in Northfield.</p> <p>Cooney: Met with Chief Nelson and Superintendent Hillmann about bridging gap between students and Student Resource Officer. His armed presence makes some students uncomfortable, especially students of color. The officer cannot go without gun, but school will be starting an SRO advisory council and have some meetings with students around this.</p> <p>Reported that the Code of Conduct (regarding behavior and consequences) is not always followed—School said it is case-by-case, which makes it unclear to students.</p> <p>Noted that records of punishments by race are not kept.</p> <p>Reported that a youth mental health board is growing out of KEY to reduce stigma, etc. It will offer a presentation to parents and others in February.</p> <p>Hoff: Reported on a presentation by a former white supremacist.</p>	
Report from Liaisons		
	<p>Martig: Reported the City has not been keeping consistent records as to diversity representation on boards and commissions. The Council's new diversity and equity goals means the City will add to forms for board and commission members a voluntary statement of race and ethnicity in an effort to track diversity. This will also be done with employment.</p> <p>The City recently hired a Latina outreach coordinator at library.</p>	

Item	Discussion/Conclusions	Action
	Hardy: Encouraged Youth Commissioners to invite students to sign up for an upcoming poetry slam.	
Adjourn		
Adjourn the meeting		A motion was made by London and seconded by Cooney to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 PM. Motion passed.
	Thursday, January 11, 2017, at 7:00, in City Hall	

Submitted by: Corinne Smith, HRC Secretary

TASKS

- CS: Confirm Emmaus; Check about use of sound system
- MV: Contact Baile Folklorica to invite them to perform
- SH: Contact Abby Henderson about doing the Benediction
- RdB: Refreshments
- CS: Poster
- CS: Letters for \$
- CS, RdB: Letters to paper
- JL, CS: Logistics
- AD, RdB, JL: SO Gospel Choir transportation
- AD: Check with SO about sound system needs
- CS: Check with Paul Hager about recording MLK and running previous year's celebration