



Northfield Human Rights Commission
MEETING MINUTES RECORD

DRAFT

Meeting: Human Rights Commission

Date: July 11, 2019 **Location:** City Hall **Start Time:** 6:08 PM **Adjourn Time:** 7:58 PM

Members present: Mar Valdecantos, Justin London, Angelique Dietz, Richard DeBeau, Lucy Gonzales Miron, Shafqat Iqbal, Joan Hepburn, Enrique Reyes Dominguez, Joan Hepburn, Larry Fowler, Enrique Reyes Dominguez, Chloe Thomas-Green, Youth Commissioner, Esperanza Carera Murga – Youth Commissioner

Members Absent: Freweyni Kaleab, Rigoberto Lazaro, Lisa Moore, Grant Bouvin – Youth Commissioner, Anna Dwyer – Youth Commissioner

Liaison Present: Beth Kallestad – City, Clarice Grabau - City Council Member, Tom Baraniak – School Board

Liaison Absent:

Others present: Nancy Carlson, Northfield Community Meal August 25, hosted through Northfield Shares

Item	Discussion/Conclusions	Action
Call to Order	Roll call and introduction	A roll call was taken of members present and a quorum was present. Esperanza Carera Murga was welcomed as a newly appointed Youth Commissioner
Approval of Agenda	Review	The agenda was approved as presented.
Open Microphone for Residents to Express Concerns	N/A	
Approval of Minutes		A motion was made by Beth and seconded by Justin to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed.

Item	Discussion/Conclusions	Action
Presentation		
III TMP-5256 Nancy Carlson, Northfield Shares	August 25 Northfield Community Meal, inspired by a similar event in St. Paul in 2016 in a food-desert neighborhood. Goal: celebrating and honoring our community. Not just a meal but it will be time to mingle, enjoy art, poetry (Rob Hardy, Poet Laureate), music, Cecelia Cornejo's The Wandering House (a projected sponsored by the HRC). 500 registrations to date, and the fundraising is also going well. Donations and Volunteers welcome. Important time to unite people in our community. Shafqat offered to Nancy to film it with his drone.	
Agenda		
TMP-5246 International Day of Peace Event – September 21	Mar will meet with Leonard Sisters and their mom 3:45 p.m. at the Golf Course on Friday. UN theme is: Climate Action for Peace. Rather than following the previous format of presentations the idea is to include a more inter-active peace fair.	
TMP-5255 Municipal ID Ordinance	Beth checked into how City IDs are used. The Library asked for feedback in its June newsletter and there was no response. NPD (Chief Nelson) reports that they do not routinely ask for IDs at police stops. Enrique and Mar looked into training employers on accepting the Municipal IDs, so that all their employees will become familiar with it. The original information sheet is very relevant still.	Next step: distribute it to businesses, make a list, talk to Chamber of Commerce.

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	Mar: it appears legally impossible to replace the legal name by just initials, as legally changing one's name is costly. NYC offers clinics to transgender people on the legal aspects of the transgender process and provide financial support for the court costs of changing a name. Northfield might want to explore doing something similar, perhaps through CAC.	
TMP-5261 Voting Members	The Mayor is open to a one-time switch to become a non-voting member. Regarding the HRC's request that each Youth Member receives full voting rights, Beth is checking on this with other Boards and Commissions to get their opinion.	
TMP-5258 Najwa Community Picnic	Location: should we stick to Greenvale? Richard calls for more universal advertising, months out. All agreed. Perhaps move to dinner time was also considered.	Decision: DATE: JUNE 27, 2020 Decision: VENUE: There was an overall preference (Larry and Shafqat in disagreement) for having the event always take place at the Greenvale location (like in 2018). However, the construction of the new school next to this site might interfere with this for 2020. HRC will revisit this at its January 2020 meeting when a timeline on the construction might be available.
TMP-5236	The following minutes were recorded by Justin London, Vice Chair (as Secretary Dietz needed to leave the meeting)	

Item	Discussion/Conclusions	Action
Workforce Housing Summit	Rice County Housing Summit report by Clarice Grebau Clarice, Mar, and other Northfielders were in attendance. Two main factors re housing are affordability and availability. Participants heard from various city officials in southern MN, as well as various employers. Common thread: this problem will not be solved by building more single-family housing. Greater housing density is needed to solve this issue. Clarice also alerted the HRC re the plans for a 79 Unit apartment at 5th and Washington. Mar noted that St. Peter, MN, has many model programs/resources for housing that Northfield does not; Clarice noted that in the case of St. Peter there were different development and funding sources (City Funding). A general discussion of housing needs in Northfield ensued. Beth K. noted that Housing is the bailiwick of HRA, and invited/encouraged HRC members to attend the HRA meetings.	
Reports From Commission Members		
	Valdecantos : A report on preparations for Indigenous Peoples Day: There is an opportunity for a special guided tour of Rice County Historical Museum for HRC members. Final schedule will be sorted out	

Item	Discussion/Conclusions	Action
	shortly via a google poll, and the best date/time for the majority of HRC members to attend will be determined. London: Dietz: DeBeau: Fowler: Heard on NPR that various locales (e.g., San Francisco; some places in Pennsylvania) have programs which give children small cash grants at birth or at the start of school (on the order of \$50-\$100). This has enhanced children's economic/financial awareness and improved things like likelihood of college attendance. Larry discussed this with various groups in town, including banks and charitable organizations. Tom Baraniak suggested this might be a way of promoting 529 programs Miron Gonzales: Iqbal: Reyes Dominiguez: Hepburn: Carera Murga: Clements-Green:	
Report From Liaisons		

Item	Discussion/Conclusions	Action
	Kallestad: After determining that we will have a quorum for August meeting, Kallestad had questions re the agenda for the August meeting, especially in re how the HRC wishes to pursue the goals articulated in our strategic planning document. Beth is also working on board and commission training for October; she will work with Ben M. in planning this process, and will seek input from current HRC members. Grabau: Baraniak:	
Adjourn		
Adjourn the meeting		A motion was made by Shafqat and seconded by Richard to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 PM. Motion passed.
	Thursday, July 11, 2019, at 7:54 pm, in City Hall	

Submitted by: Angelique Dietz/Justin London, HRC Secretary/Vice Chair