



Bismarck Human Relations Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 24, 2020

The Bismarck Human Relations Committee (HRC) met on February 24, 2020, at 5:15 PM in the Bismarck City/County Building, 4th Floor Conference Room, 221 N 5th Street. Vice Chair Helling presided.

Call to Order

Vice Chair Helling called the meeting to order at 5:18 PM.

Roll Call

Committee members present were Darcy Andahl, Shae Helling, Brandi Jude, Manisha Sawhney, Trevor Vannett and S. Hannah Vanorny. Whitnie Olsen with the City of Bismarck was present.

Committee member Krista Rausch was absent.

HRC Mission

The mission was read by Vice Chair Helling.

2020 HRC Goals

The members present reviewed the goals established at the January 27, 2020 meeting. The goals will remain on the agenda for all 2020 meetings.

Public Comment

There were not any members of the public present with comments.

Acceptance of Minutes

Vice Chair Helling called for consideration of the minutes of the January 27, 2020 Bismarck Human Relations Committee meeting. S. Hannah Vanorny noted the misspelling of her name in item four on page two.

Motion: Darcy Andahl made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2020 meeting with the correction of S. Hannah Vanorny's name on page two, item number four. Trevor Vannett seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved with committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.

Human Rights Essay Contest

The members reviewed a sample flyer to advertise the essay contest. They discussed the differences between the prior contests which included poetry and essays. Members present agreed to advertise for essays. Manisha Sawhney suggested that the expectations for elementary school and middle school applicants be explained on the flyer. Whitnie Olsen will make the changes and email the proof to the members.

Motion: Manisha Sawhney made a motion to approve the flyer with the corrections. S. Hannah Vanorny seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved with committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.



Diversity University

Spring Event:

Brandi Jude did not have an update to share with the committee as she has not heard back from the Heritage Center. She will send Whitnie Olsen an email with all information once a date has been confirmed with the Heritage Center.

Review/Record Public Service Announcements:

Vice Chair Helling updated the committee with information from Chair Rausch. Chair Rausch is working on the public service announcements. Manisha Sawhney is going to compose a message from a mother's standpoint. Whitnie Olsen will send the members the messages once they are done.

Other business:

Annual Report:

S Hannah Vanorny has prepared the 2019 annual report. She will present the report at the February 25th Bismarck City Commission Meeting.

Hidden Star Park:

Brandi Jude addressed the committee regarding a potential partnership between her leadership training group and the HRC. The group is working on a proposal for Hidden Star Park. If approved the group will present a presentation to the HRC with expectations/needs of the committee.

Meeting Location:

Meetings will now be held in the Mayor's Conference on the 4th floor of the City County Building.

Applications Received:

Vice Chair Helling updated the committee regarding membership applications. Deadline for applications is March 31, 2020.

2020 HRC Goals #2:

Manisha Sawhney addressed the group regarding the student liaisons. She inquired as to what the committee felt would be an ideal time to approach the schools regarding a liaison program. She is going to prepare a message to the school principals for the committee to review at the next meeting. Whitnie Olsen will add as an item to the March 16, 2020 agenda.

HRC Bylaws:

Chair Rausch is working on a draft of bylaws and will update the committee on the progress at the March 16, 2020 meeting.

Advertisements:

The committee reviewed the three flyers Whitnie Olsen created as advertisements to be used on Dakota Media Access and social media. The committee noted the following changes:

- Change the color yellow to teal on the first flyer
- Add the phrase "Join us in our mission of Inclusion, Equality and Accessibility" to each flyer

Whitnie will make the changes and send to the committee members to review prior to the next scheduled meeting.



Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Vice Chair Helling. The next meeting of the Bismarck Human Relations Committee will be held at 5:15 PM. on Monday, March 16, 2020 in the 4th floor Mayor's Conference Room of the Bismarck City/County Building.

Reported by Whitnie Olsen