



Bismarck Human Relations Committee

5/15/2023 - Minutes

Call To Order

Chair Grueneich called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM.

Roll Call

Committee members present were Gabrielle Abouassaly, Jason Grueneich, Sashay Schettler, and Sargianna Wutzke. Jason Tomanek and Whitnie Olsen with the City of Bismarck were also present.

Geraldine Ambe, Darcy Andahl, Thea Jorgensen, Nicole Ralph, and Carl Young were absent.

Carl Young joined the meeting at 5:49 PM.

HRC Mission

Chair Grueneich read the mission statement.

1. Public Comment

- Jason Thoms with Dakota Pro Musica at Bismarck State College, invited the HRC to participate in a scheduled event on October 6, 2023, at Trinity Lutheran Church, acknowledging the 25th Anniversary of the kidnapping of Matthew Shepherd in Laramie, Wyoming. The committee agreed to discuss the event at the next meeting.
- Kris Mount with District 35 Democrat / Non-Partisan League, informed the committee of an event taking place to celebrate Juneteenth at the Kenedy Memorial Center in Bismarck on June 19, 2023.

2. Approval Of Meeting Minutes

Chair Grueneich called for the consideration of the April 17, 2023, meeting minutes.

Motion: Carl Young motioned to approve the April 17, 2023, meeting minutes as presented. Gabrielle Abouassaly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved, with committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.

3. Partnered Events

A. Fargo Human Rights Committee Collaboration

The committee agreed to delay any action at this time and monitor the City of Minot's actions relating to its own HRC. General consensus was to continue the discussion at a future meeting.

4. Build Committee Recognition

A. Band Night Parade Recap

Although the parade was canceled due to rain, Chair Grueneich thanked the committee for their willingness to participate in the Band Night Parade.

B. These Are Your Neighbors Podcast

Sargianna Wutzke reported that three episodes were recorded in April and the schedule will continue with two new episodes being recorded each month.

5. Other Business

- Sargianna Wutzke motioned to participate in the June 19, 2023, Juneteenth event through education and outreach as done in past events, and Gabrielle Abouassaly seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved, with committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.
- The committee discussed the City of Minot's interest to reinstitute its Human Rights Committee. Carl Young has been communicating with Scott Burlingame, a Minot Council member regarding the subject. He indicated that he would share the Bismarck HRC's mission statement with the Minot City Council.
- The group scheduled a meeting of the Municipal Equality Index Subcommittee for Monday, May 22, 2023, at 12:00 PM to discuss the MEI project.

Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 6:08 PM.