



Human Relations Commission Agenda

5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting

Thursday, January 5, 2023

Jack Powell Conference Room – City Hall

25 Center Street

Vermillion, South Dakota 57069

1. **Roll Call**
2. **Adoption of the Agenda**
3. **Approval of the Minutes**
 - a. December 7, 2022 Regular Meeting.
4. **Visitors to be Heard**
5. **Old Business**
 - a. Land Acknowledgement Statement.
 - b. Discussion of Listening Session.
 - c. Rights of Students in Vermillion.
6. **New Business**
 - a. Non-discrimination ordinance.
7. **Standing Business**
 - a. Resources and Events.
8. **Adjourn**

Access the Human Relations Commission Agenda on the web – www.vermillion.us

Addressing the Commission: Persons addressing the Commission shall be recognized. Please raise your hand to be recognized and state your name and address.

a. Items Not on the Agenda Members of the public may speak under Visitors to Be Heard on any topic NOT on the agenda. Remarks are limited to 5 minutes and no decision will be made at this time.

b. Agenda Items: Public testimony will be taken at the beginning of each agenda item, after the subject has been announced by the Chair and explained by staff. Any citizen who wishes may speak one time for 5 minutes on each agenda item. Public testimony will then be closed and the topic will be given to the governing body for possible action. At this point, only commission members and staff may discuss the current agenda item unless a commission member moves to allow another person to speak and there is unanimous consent from the commission. Questions from commission members, however, may be directed to the public through the presiding officer at any time.

Meeting Assistance: The City of Vermillion fully subscribes to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you desire to attend this public meeting and are in need of special accommodations, please notify the City Manager's Office at 677-7050 at least 3 working days prior to the meeting so appropriate auxiliary aids and services can be made available.

As a courtesy to others, we ask that cellular phones and pagers be turned off during the meeting.

Unapproved Minutes
Human Relations Commission
Wednesday, December 7, 2022 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Human Relations Commission was called to order on Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at 5:35 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: Jordan Bonstrom, Becky Rider, Michelle Kavanaugh, Mike Phelan, Trevor Mandernach

Absent: Alexis Oskolkoff, Student Representative Deidre Whiteman

Staff Present: Stone Conley, Assistant to the City Manager; John Prescott, City Manager

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Rider motioned to approve the agenda as amended adding 6b. community liaison discussion, and 6c. Non-Discrimination Ordinance seconded by Phelan. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of the Minutes

Phelan motioned to approve the November 3, 2022 minutes, seconded by Rider. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Visitors to be Heard

None

5. Old Business

5a. Bonstrom stated that there was no update this month and that discussions are continuing among different groups. Discussions will continue at the next meeting.

5b. Phelan states that the listening session went pretty well. The session lasted an hour and a half. Pros and Cons of the event were discussed by those in attendance. The group who participated states they would like more native culture-based landmarks within the community. The group who participated in the listening session also stated that they would like a space for the native population to go. Alongside this the group would like more native stories to be shared within the community. Safety was also a large issue brought up at the event. Rider says there was frustration as well regarding USD and the staffing of native faculty. Kavanaugh states that poverty and not being seen in the community were also large topics discussed at the event. Phelan believes that a follow-up event would prove beneficial for the community. Would possibly like it at the Native Student Center at USD. Kavanaugh agrees with the follow-up event and its location. The HRC will look to host

another session at the end of January or early February with one in March possibly following.

5c. Bonstrom says USD will be hosting a student housing event that the HRC could help with. It will be on January 24th at 11:30 AM in the MUC Pit at USD. Bonstrom would like some brochures and reading material brought for the event.

6. New Business

6a. The City of Vermillion received their Municipal Equality Index score and discussed the information with the HRC.

6b. The HRC was informed that Drew Gortmaker of the Vermillion Police Department will now be the Police Department liaison for the HRC. Kavanaugh thought having a liaison from United Way or another local organization could be beneficial. She would like to continue connections with community organizations.

6c. Phelan discussed the possibility of drafting a non-discrimination ordinance. He would like for language to be brought to City Council to adopt. Phelan will bring language to the group over the next month or two. Discussions will continue next meeting.

7. Standing Business

8. Adjourn

Moved by Kavanaugh to adjourn, seconded by Phelan. Motion carried unanimously at 6:29 p.m.

Jordan Bonstrom, Chair

Vermillion Human Relations Commission