



Human Relations Commission Agenda

5:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

Thursday, January 6, 2022

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 9, 2021 Regular Meeting.
4. **Visitors to be Heard**
5. **Old Business**
 - a. Land Acknowledgement Statement
 - b. Discussion of Listening Session
 - c. Statewide HRC Meeting
6. **New Business**
 - a. HRC In-Take Exercise
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 Mayor 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
Thursday, December 09, 2021 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Human Relations Commission was called to order on Thursday, December 09, 2021 at 5:06 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Shannon Cole, Wendy Hess, Jerry Yutrzenka, Brenda Fergen, Jordan Bonstrom

Absent: Alexis Oskolkoff, Bentou Kamara

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

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Yutrzenka motioned to approve the agenda with the changes noted, seconded by Fergen. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Approval of the Minutes

2a. Cole moved to approve the November 04, 2021 regular meeting minutes seconded by Fergen. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Visitors to be Heard

3a. None

4. Old Business

4a. Cole brought an email of a possible land acknowledgement statement and read it aloud for the HRC to hear. Yutrzenka liked how short but precise it is. Hess also agreed with this statement. All agreed to move forward with the text.

4b. Cole asked the commission of options for listening sessions. Hess stated she would reach out to the various minority and indigenous/cultural groups possibly within even the USD Law School. Yutrzenka would like to reach out to Marcus Destin to see if he would be willing to assist. Would possibly like him to talk with the mayor. Cole feels a listening session would be easy and efficient. Would like others or a member to continue reaching out to various groups. Yutrzenka would like to ensure the correct questions are asked. Hess would like to ensure outreach is coordinated. Yutrzenka believes a small group of leaders for the session would be good.

5. New Business

5a. Tabled until next meeting to provide more analysis of the process and a better flow chart is drafted.

5b. Cole would like to know the process for setting up a subcommittee. Would like a social outreach committee for certain. States that this is the biggest need currently subcommittee wise for the HRC. A chair will also be needed for the listening sessions. Bonstrom volunteers to co-chair the listening sessions. Yutrzenka says he can assist if he can do so remotely. Cole and Bonstrom volunteer to head the social outreach subcommittee. Cole would like a photo and biography sent by HRC members to be posted on the social media and Vermillion HRC page. Cole stated Brookings HRC invited them to a statewide HRC meeting. City staff will create a list of the current HRCs active in South Dakota.

6. Standing Business

a. HRC Members received an email with various podcasts and projects. MLK day is on the horizon, Cole would like members to think of possible events. Cole would also like the City Council to issue a proclamation at the January 3rd meeting for Martin Luther King Jr. Hess stated on March 21st, 2021 there will be a Native Student symposium at the USD Law School. Yutrzenka would like to touch base with the library to connect on projects. Cole may show Selma at the Coyote Twin Theater.

7. Adjourn

Moved by Hess to adjourn, seconded by Fergen. Motion carried unanimously at 5:55 p.m.

Shannon Cole, Chair

Vermillion Human Relations Commission

HRC In-Take Exercise

A transgender individual who is a resident of Vermillion was cited for **parking in a parkway** in front of the apartments the individual lives at.

The individual contacted Code Enforcement regarding the issue. Code Enforcement let the individual know that our Ordinance states:

§ 70.072: PROHIBITED IN CERTAIN PLACES:

- **(6)** Upon any parkway. Exception: Permitted parkway parking. Applicants may apply to the Code Enforcement Office for a permit to park in the parkway. Permits may be issued when the parkway is greater than 19 feet and it can be shown by the applicant that an existing use and/or a hardship exists. For purposes of considering a request for a permit subsequent to the issuance of a previous permit at a given location, an existing use shall not alone constitute a basis for issuance of a permit;

The basis of the application states:

“I am transgender person. I have been harassed on Main street in the past (residency with parkway applied for is not on Main Street and is roughly two blocks north of it). My job begins at 5am so I leave for work at 4:30am. I do not feel safe walking a distance away from my house at that hour for the above safety concerns”.

- The parkway parking is also further from the front door than the approved off-street parking located adjacent to the house.
- The individual applied for a permit but was **denied** due to there being sufficient off-street parking on property available (**6 parking spaces= 2 per unit x 3 units**).

The applicant then wished to appeal the decision with the City, as the individual disagreed with its ruling.

After explanation from the City Attorney on how there is no appeal process, the possibility of filing a civil suit was then mentioned by the citizen.

How would the HRC Flow Chart handle this issue?