



Human Relations Commission Agenda

7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

Thursday, May 7, 2020

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81205850049>

Virtual Only Meeting

Vermillion, South Dakota 57069

1. **Roll Call**
2. **Adoption of the Agenda**
3. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. March 5, 2020
4. **Visitors to be Heard**
5. **Old Business**
 - a. Land Acknowledgment Statement
 - b. Home Rule Update
 - c. Public Relations Update
6. **New Business**
 - a. Introduction of New Members
 - b. Discussion of Officer Elections

7. **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 Chairperson 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, March 5, 2020 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Human Relations Commission was called to order in the Large Conference Room at City Hall on March 5, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: Travis Letellier, Lamont Sellers (7:07), Jolly Omar, Calvin Petersen, Shannon Cole (7:05), Mark Daniels, and Wendy Hess (via phone).

Absent: None.

Staff present: John Prescott, City Manager; James Purdy, Assistant City Manager

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Daniels motioned to approve the agenda seconded by Petersen. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of the Minutes

3a. Daniels moved to approve the January 9, 2020 minutes, seconded by Omar. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Visitors to be Heard

None.

5. Old Business

- a. Land Acknowledgment Statement.
- b. Home Rule Update.
- c. Public Relations Ideas.

5a. Daniels stated that he will meet with tribal elders to discuss the draft land acknowledgement statement and elicit feedback. Sellers indicated that there are no updates regarding USD's land acknowledgement statement. This item will remain on future agendas, as developing the statement will be a continuous and sensitive process.

5b. John Prescott, City Manager, reported that the official Home Rule Charter Committee has been appointed by the City Council. The goal of the Charter Committee is to develop a Home Rule Charter that could potentially be voted on by the public at the November 2020 general election. It was suggested that the VHRC and charter committee have future discussions about common goals and interests for the charter.

6. New Business

- a. Public Statements and the VHRC.

6a. Letellier asked the open ended question, "How do we market ourselves/create awareness about the VHRC?" Petersen had several ideas including:

- 1) Providing a poster/brochure to churches.

- 2) Providing posters/brochures to businesses, service clubs, laundry mats, and organizations on campus.
- 3) A write up in the local newspaper.

Sellers stated that it is important that messaging is consistent, and proposed the VHRC come up with a mission statement and consistent talking points to be utilized in a variety of situations and settings.

Omar also proposed a type of community award that celebrates business/community leaders that have shown a commitment to diversity and inclusion in Vermillion. The Commission will follow up on that idea with the Vermillion Area Chamber and Development Company.

Hess and Petersen volunteered to work on a mission statement, and some talking points.

It was noted that this is the last meeting of this group of Commissioners. The City will be advertising the openings within the next month or two. All commissioners are welcome to reapply.

The next meeting will be Thursday, May 7, 2020 at 7:00pm.

7. Adjourn

Moved by Daniels to adjourn, seconded by Petersen. Motion carried unanimously at 8:05 p.m.

Travis Letellier, Chair

Vermillion Human Relations Commission