

Unapproved Minutes
Human Relations Commission
Thursday February 7, 2019 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Human Relations Commission was called to order in the Large Conference Room at City Hall on February 7, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: Daniel Sundberg, Quinn Thornton, Travis Letellier, Lamont Sellers, Addison McCauley, Shannon Cole, Mark Daniels, Marina Sereda
Absent: Calvin Petersen
Staff present: John Prescott, City Manager
James Purdy, Assistant City Manager

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Commissioner Daniels stated he would like a discussion of a home rule charter added to the agenda. It will be added as new business item b. Commissioner Sellers motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Daniels. Motion carried.

3. Minutes

a. January 3, 2019

Vice-Chairman Letellier motioned to approve the minutes with corrections, seconded by Commissioner Sellers. Motion carried.

4. Visitors to be Heard

None

5. Old Business

- a. Approve final versions of complaint and respondent forms
- b. Potential changed to HRC Ordinance
- c. Update on HRC logo
- d. Email address

5a. The Commission reviewed VHRC Form 1A, and several changes were recommended. Vice-Chairman Letellier motioned to approve form VHRC Form 1A with recommended changes, seconded by Commissioner Daniels. Motion carried.

The Commission reviewed VHRC Form 2A. Some recommended changes were moving page 3 to page 1, updating the statute cited to 32.61, and adding language regarding the transferring of complaints to other jurisdictions. Commissioner Thornton motioned to approve VHRC Form 2A with recommended changes, seconded by Commissioner Sundberg. Motion carried.

5b. Chairman McCauley stated that he has spoken to the State Human Rights Commission, and an attorney for the South Dakota Department of Labor. Chairman McCauley discussed the difference between 'filing' a complaint, and 'submitting' a complaint, and where in the

review process each term should be used. Chairman McCauley also stated that the respondent would not need to be notified at the time of submission, only at the time of filing. At the time of filing, the respondent must receive a copy of the complaint filed against them.

Chairman McCauley also discussed some additional changes in the formatting of the ordinance, and some changes in the timeline of the review process. City Staff has suggested Chairman McCauley to present an update to the City Council regarding potential changes to the ordinance at the evening meeting on March 4th. The goal of the ordinance update would be for the first reading to take place on March 18th, and the second reading to take place on April 1st.

Vice-Chairman Letellier motioned to approve the amendments to the ordinance as presented, seconded by Commissioner Daniels. Motion carried.

5c. Shannon Cole stated that the file City Staff provided her to create a VHRC logo was not in the correct file format. City Staff will continue to search for the original file in the correct format, and forward it to Shannon if found.

5d. James Purdy, Assistant City Manager, stated that an email address for the VHRC has been created, and that only he and John Prescott, City Manager, have access to that account. The address is vhrc@cityofvermillion.com

6. New Business

- a. Review of poster designs
- b. Discussion of home rule municipalities (added item)

6a. The Commission reviewed two poster designs, and some changes were suggested. Shannon Cole stated that she will work on posters for specific VHRC events, and will hopefully be able to incorporate the new VHRC logo in those designs.

6b. Commissioner Daniels stated that he is interested in the home rule concept, and that he has been researching how it could help the VHRC protect groups of people beyond what is enumerated in current state statute. James Purdy, Assistant City Manager, stated that there is current interest within the Council to explore the benefits of a home rule charter. James Purdy stated that City Staff is hoping to present some possible benefits of home rule to the Council at an upcoming noon educational session. James Purdy stated that he will give Commissioner Daniels and other members of the Commission a firm date so that they may attend the session to voice their support.

7. Adjourn

Moved by Commissioner Sellers to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Daniels. Motion carried at 8:39 p.m.

Vermillion Human Relations Commission

Lamont Sellers, Secretary