

Unapproved Minutes
Human Relations Commission
Thursday, May 5, 2022 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Human Relations Commission was called to order on Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 5:06 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: Brenda Fergen, Jordan Bonstrom, Alexis Oskolkoff (via Zoom), Michelle Kavanaugh, Becky Rider, Mike Phelan, Student Representative Deidre Whiteman (via Zoom)

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

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Bonstrom motioned to approve the agenda with edits, seconded by Phelan. Motion carried unanimously.

5. New Business

5b. The HRC held elections for officers. Fergen nominated Bonstrom as Chair, seconded by Rider. Motion passes unanimously. Bonstrom nominated Fergen as Vice Chair, seconded by Kavanaugh. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of the Minutes

Rider motioned to approve the Minutes of the May 5, 2022 Meeting, seconded by Fergen. Motion carried 6-0 with Kavanaugh abstaining.

3. Visitors to be Heard

3a. Wendy Hess visited to inform the HRC of a banned book club opportunity. She thinks the HRC should consider partnering with reading groups may be beneficial. Shannon Cole who was also visiting stated there may be a list of them on the MEI (Municipal Equality Index).

5. New Business

5a. Council Member Travis Letellier came to the meeting to greet the new HRC members. He described the history and the foundation of the HRC. He discussed various goals of the commission, alongside tips for new members. He would like them to try discussing proclamation ideas.

4. Old Business

4a. Shannon Cole visited to discuss the HRC's land acknowledgement statement due to previously working on it while she served on the HRC. Cole discussed the statement and its process. She stated David Leader Charge and Elise Boxer of USD have assisted with the process. Discussions will continue, and a memo for new members will be sent to them regarding this and other projects currently being worked on.

4b. Wendy Hess visited to discuss the HRC's listening session due to previously working on the project. Hess explained the history of the discussion. She stated that Mark Daniels had accepted his invite to host the event. Bonstrom would like to continue planning for this event. New members will be sent a list to add ideas of possible guests. Rider likes the concept of the listening session.

6. Standing Business

6a. Shannon Cole visited and welcomed an invitation to collaborate with the Vermillion Cultural Association. Cole believes the Student Cultural Society is also a great resource to utilize. June 11-12 is for Vermillion Pride. Phelan thinks the HRC should educate the public on this event. Rider states she would like to assist with the HRC Facebook page.

7. Adjourn

Moved by Rider to adjourn, seconded by Phelan. Motion carried unanimously at 6:12 p.m.

Jordan Bonstrom, Chair

Vermillion Human Relations Commission