

Unapproved Minutes
Human Relations Commission
Thursday, June 1, 2023 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Human Relations Commission was called to order on Thursday, June 1, 2023 at 5:34 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: Jordan Bonstrom, Michelle Kavanaugh, Trevor Mandernach, Cameron Morgan, Mike Phelan (via zoom)

Absent: Becky Rider, Phil Terwilliger

Staff Present: John Prescott, City Manager

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Bonstrom suggested adding 6b. Proclamation Process and 6c. Commission budget. Kavanaugh motioned to approve the agenda with the additions, seconded by Mandernach. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of the Minutes

Phelan motioned to approve the May 4, 2023 minutes, seconded by Mandernach. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Visitors to be Heard

None.

5. Old Business

5a. No update to report. The statement has been provided to the City Council.

5b. Bonstrom had followed up with the Gallagher Center. The vast majority of the students are happy with the current arrangements for prayer. The Commission has done what they can do. Will remove this item from future agendas. Will revisit in the Fall if needed.

6. New Business

6a The Commission reviewed the forms completed by the Complainant and the Respondent. A flowchart of the complaint process was also reviewed. Discussion ensued on the forms. Only three potential complaints have ever made contact. The process was explained to the individuals. None of the individuals ever completed the forms to begin the process after learning more about what the Commission can address and what their concern was. Discussion was had on providing more information on the process or forms to the website. Will look at reviewing a case study at a future meeting.

6b. The Commission reviewed options for a Juneteenth proclamation and a Pride month proclamation. The proclamations will be refined and

submitted for the June 20th City Council meeting. It will be determined at a later date who will read each of the proclamations.

6c. The Commission discussed using some of the budget to purchase a tablecloth with the Commission name or logo to be used at community events. Commission members will look at local options to provide the tablecloth and get some additional price quotes.

7. Standing Business

7a. The last week of June there are several Pride month events being planned. On June 19 there will be a Juneteenth event from 3-5 at Ratingen Platz being organized by the USD Office of Multicultural Affairs. The One Book South Dakota author of Seed Keeper will be at the Library on June 6, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

8. Adjourn

It was suggested at the next meeting to have the USD Student Outreach event on the agenda. It was also suggested that the Police Department liaison be invited to a meeting.

A doodle poll will be sent out to see if July 6 or 13 works better for the next meeting date.

Moved by Mandernach to adjourn, seconded by Kavanaugh. Motion carried unanimously at 6:31 p.m.

Jordan Bonstrom, Chair

Vermillion Human Relations Commission