



Bismarck Human Relations Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2021

The Bismarck Human Relations Committee (HRC) met on January 25, 2021, at 5:15 PM in the Bismarck City/County Building, Mayor's Conference Room, 4th Floor, 221 N 5th Street. Chair Rausch presided.

Call to Order

Chair Rausch called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM.

Roll Call

Committee members present were Darcy Andahl, Shae Helling, Annette Martel, Krista Rausch, Manisha Sawhney, Trevor Vannett, S. Hannah Vanorny and Sargianna Wutzke. Jason Grueneich, a prospective committee member, Whitnie Olsen and Jason Tomanek with the City of Bismarck were also present.

Committee members Kollie Flomo and Brandi Hardy were absent.

HRC Mission

The mission was read by Chair Rausch.

Acceptance of Minutes

Chair Rausch called for consideration of the minutes of the December 21, 2020 Bismarck Human Relations Committee meeting.

Motion: Darcy Andahl made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2020 meeting as presented. Shae Helling seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved with committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.

Public Comment

Jason Grueneich was present to observe the meeting.

Introduction of New Member

Sargianna Wutzke was introduced to the committee as she was participating as an elected member of the committee for the first time.

Humanitarian Award

The committee discussed advertising to seek nominations for the Humanitarian Award for the year 2020.

Motion: Trevor Vannett made a motion to advertise for nominations for the Humanitarian Award through March 15, 2021. Darcy Andahl seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved with committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.

Whitnie Olsen will coordinate with City staff to prepare advertisements and report back to the committee at the February 22, 2021 meeting.

Annual Report

S. Hannah Vanorny will present the Annual Report to the Bismarck City Commission at the January 26, 2021 meeting. Sargianna Wutzke volunteered to prepare the annual report for the upcoming year.



Bismarck Global Neighbors: Immigrant Advisory Committee

Discussion was tabled for a future meeting.

Cultural Awareness & Sensitivity Training (Advancing Racial Equity in Your City)

As of January 25, 2021, four of the nine committee members had signed up for the training. Annette Martel and Trevor Vannett expressed concerns regarding the pandemic and thought the training might have better participation if it is held at a later time.

Motion: Darcy Andahl made a motion to revisit the training in the fall of 2021. Trevor Vannett seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved with committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.

2021 HRC Goals

- Student Liaisons: Begin correspondence with schools May 2021
- Diversity University
- Speaking to Service Clubs/Committees
- Engaging in Community Events

Other Business

Resignation

Vice Chair Helling resigned from the committee leaving an unexpired term available. Mayor Bakken reviewed the recent applications and will recommend to the Bismarck City Commission appointment of applicant, Jason Grueneich, to fulfill the unexpired term to expire January 31, 2023.

Chair and Vice Chair Appointments

Darcy Andahl volunteered to be the Human Relations Committee Chair and Trevor Vannett volunteered to be the Vice Chair.

Motion: Manisha Sawhney made a motion to appoint Darcy Andahl as committee Chair and Trevor Vannett as committee Vice Chair. Annette Martel seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved with committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Rausch. The next meeting of the Bismarck Human Relations Committee will be held at 5:15 PM. on Monday, February 22, 2021 in the Mayor's Conference Room of the Bismarck City/County Building.

Reported by Whitnie Olsen