



Bismarck Human Relations Committee Meeting Minutes

4/19/2021 - Minutes

Call To Order

Chair Andahl called the meeting to order at 5:25 PM.

Roll Call

Committee members present were Darcy Andahl, Jason Grueneich, Brandi Hardy, Annette Martel, Krista Rausch, Trevor Vannett, and Sargianna Wutzke. Whitnie Olsen and Jason Tomanek with the City of Bismarck were also present.

Committee members Kollie Flomo and Manisha Sawhney were absent.

HRC Mission

The mission was read by Chair Andahl.

1. Approval Of Meeting Minutes

Chair Andahl called for consideration of the minutes of the March 22, 2021 special meeting.

Motion: Krista Rausch made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2021 special meeting as presented. Sargianna Wutzke seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved with committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.

2. Public Comment

There was no public present.

3. Humanitarian Award Update

The plaques for the two award recipients are finished and it is the intention that they be presented at the April 27, 2021 Bismarck City Commission Meeting. Committee members who are able, will attend the meeting to present the plaques to the recipients.

4. Student Essay/Poetry Contest Discussion

Jason Tomanek provided the committee with an update regarding the Essay/Poetry Contest. Discussion followed regarding how to better engage students to submit entries in the future. The committee will then make a plan to reach out to the schools to encourage them to include the contest into their lesson plans.

Motion: Trevor Vannett made a motion to bring the student essay/poetry contest back to the committee

at the July 19, 2021 meeting. Krista Rausch seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved with committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.

5. 2021 HRC Goals

A. Diversity University

Multi-cultural Dinner: Brandi Hardy opened the discussion about hosting an in person multi-cultural dinner for 2021. Krista Rausch will mentor any of the members who would like to oversee the event for the 2021. Brandi Hardy volunteered to chair the event for 2021.

B. Participate In Community Events

Jason Grueneich asked the if the committee would like to participate in Pride at the Capitol Lawn on June 19, 2021. Discussion followed.

Motion: Brandi Hardy made a motion to be a Level 2 Sponsor at the Dakota Outright's Capital Pride 2021 event. Trevor Vannett seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved with committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.

The committee members will bring ideas to the May meeting for items to have at the booth to help spread education and awareness of the committee.

C. Speaking To Service Clubs/Committees

There was nothing to report at this time.

D. Student Liaisons

The committee will resume discussion regarding the student liaison program in May.

6. Other Business

Committee members Hardy and Grueneich provided the committee with an update on the Municipal Quality Index Rating. They intend to collaborate with various City departments and organizations including the Police Department, Fire Department, Bismarck Burleigh Public Health, Bismarck Veterans Memorial Library, the Downtowners, and Chamber EDC to improve the City's Municipal Quality Index Rating. The initiative aligns with the City of Bismarck Strategic Plan which was adopted in June 2019. Hardy and Grueneich will request support from the City Commission at the June 22, 2021 meeting.

Adjournment