



Bismarck Human Relations Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 20, 2019

The Bismarck Human Relations Committee (HRC) met on May 20, 2019, at 5:15 PM in the Bismarck City/County Building, 1st Floor Conference Room, 221 N 5th St. Vice-Chair Shae Helling presided.

Call to Order

Vice-Chair Helling called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM.

Roll Call

Committee members present were Shae Helling, Amy Ingersoll-Johnson, S. Hannah Vanorny and Paul Zondo. Other guests present were Whitnie Olsen and Jason Tomanek.

HRC Mission

The Mission was read by Amy Ingersoll-Johnson.

Acceptance of Minutes

Vice-Chair Helling called for consideration of the minutes of the April 15, 2019 Bismarck Human Relations Committee meeting.

Motion: Amy Ingersoll-Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 15, 2019 meeting as received. Paul Zondo seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved with committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.

Diversity University: Fall / Winter Discussion

Cultural Dinner

Chair Rausch is waiting to hear back from Legacy High School regarding reserving the room for the Cultural Dinner. Guatemalan food is planned to be the theme and Chair Rausch will reach out to her contacts closer to the event to coordinate details.

Upcoming Events

Capital Pride

The committee is registered to host a booth at the Capital Pride Event on June 15, 2019. Committee members Helling and Rausch will coordinate times to be at the booth.

Committee Vacancies

The committee currently has four vacancies. The Mayor is in the process of reviewing three applications that have been submitted.



Humanitarian Award

As of May 20, 2019, the committee had not received any nominations for the Humanitarian Award. The committee discussed extending the deadline and also different ways to advertise the award. Shae Helling recommended using various media outlets. Jason Tomanek advised that the committee members are welcome to conduct interviews with television and radio news resources. He also explained that Dakota Media Access is a great source for distributing information to the public.

Motion: Amy Ingersoll-Johnson made a motion to extend the submission deadline to June 30, 2019. S. Hannah Vanorny seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved with committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.

Past Events

Band Night Parade

Sister Hannah and Amy Ingersoll-Johnson reported on walking in the May 10, 2019 Band Night Parade. The committee members present discussed sending a proxy to future events if the member themselves is not able to attend.

Poetry and Essay Contest Pizza Parties

Amy Ingersoll-Johnson and S. Hannah Vanorny provided feedback from the pizza parties. S. Hannah Vanorny recommended considering two separate contests, one for poetry and one for essays for future contests. The committee will discuss changes prior to the 2020 contest.

Other Business

Community Mural

Amy Ingersoll-Johnson provided the committee with an update. At this time, the project will continue to be discussed and will come back to the Committee for updates in the future

Committee Name

Amy Ingersoll-Johnson asked if it was possible to change the committee's name from Human Relations Committee to Human Rights Committee. Discussion followed. City staff will follow up with the City Attorney for clarification.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Vice Chair Shae Helling. The next meeting of the Bismarck Human Relations Committee will be held at 5:15 PM. on Monday, June 17, 2019 in the 1st floor conference room of the Bismarck City/County Building.

Reported by Whitnie Olsen