



Bismarck Human Relations Committee
Meeting Minutes
June 17, 2019

The Bismarck Human Relations Committee (HRC) met on June 17, 2019, at 5:15 PM in the Bismarck City/County Building, 1st Floor Conference Room, 221 N 5th Street. Chair Krista Rausch presided.

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

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

HRC Mission

The Mission was read by Chair Rausch.

Acceptance of Minutes

Chair Rausch called for consideration of the minutes of the May 20, 2019 Bismarck Human Relations Committee meeting.

Motion: Amy Ingersoll-Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2019 meeting as received. Shae Helling seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved with committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.

Past Events

Capital Pride

The committee hosted a booth at Dakota Outright's Capital Pride event on June 15, 2019. Committee members discussed adding games or items to future booths to help draw the public's attention.

Upcoming Events

2019 International Festival

The International Festival will be held at the Missouri Valley Family YMCA in Bismarck on September 15, 2019 from 1 pm to 6 pm.

Motion: Amy Ingersoll-Johnson made a motion to host a booth at the 2019 International Festival. S. Hannah Vanorny seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved with committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.

Hannah Vanorny will be the HRC liaison for the festival.

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. The event is tentatively planned to be held in the first two weeks in November.

Committee Vacancies

The committee currently has four vacancies. The Mayor is in the process of reviewing three applications that have been submitted. The committee members present discussed recording public service announcements to advertise the committee as well as the vacancies. 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. Chair Rausch volunteered to write messages that could be recorded by Dakota Media Access.

Humanitarian Award

As of June 17, 2019, the committee had not received any nominations for the Humanitarian Award. The committee discussed reaching out to their peer groups as well as other groups in the community. Shae Helling will reach out to the Bismarck School District to encourage nominations. The committee discussed simplifying the application form. Committee members felt the length of the application may hinder people from submitting nominations. The committee will review the application at its next meeting.

Other Business

Committee Name

City staff will collaborate with the City Attorney as to the options around changing the committee's name.

Attendance

Chair Rausch started a discussion regarding committee attendance. She reminded the members present that each member is expected to attend eight of the twelve meetings each year of their term. If a member misses three or more meetings Chair Rausch will call to check in with the member and remind them of the attendance policy.

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, July 15, 2019 in the 1st floor conference room of the Bismarck City/County Building.

Reported by Whitnie Olsen