


MINUTES	Thursday, June 10, 2021 at 12:00 PM	
Human Relations Commission Meeting	Commission Room 1st Floor—City Hall 224 West Ninth Street Sioux Falls, South Dakota or by teleconference at 1-408-418- 9388, Access Code 1870 98 6049##	

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Nassir Yemam, Sheku Bannister, Anny Libengood, Megan Grode Wolters
PRESENT BY PHONE: Ryan Chase, Megan Myers
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Karen Gourley, Kassidi Smith, Justine Schoolmeester
STAFF PRESENT: Sharla Svenes, Lyndsey Meier, Elise Haugaard

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m.

ADOPT THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Grode Wolters and seconded by Libengood to adopt agenda. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Grode Wolters and seconded by Yemam to approve minutes from the May 2021 meeting. Motion passed.

BUSINESS OR PENDING ISSUES BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD

Guest Speaker – Jordan Bruxvoort, The Naomi Project. The Naomi Project is a non-profit organization and community resource dedicated to educating workers, especially immigrant workers, about their rights in the workplace. Three members of the Naomi Project: Ervin, Elias, and Linda shared their personal experiences of workplace injustice and the help they received through the Naomi Project. Elias was a victim of labor trafficking and experienced grave injustices working in South Dakota. Bruxvoort discussed the Naomi Project’s Slave-Free South Dakota campaign to eliminate labor trafficking within the construction industry. More information can be found on their website, [Naomi Project | Workers' and Immigrants' Rights \(projectofnaomi.org\)](http://NaomiProject.org). Bruxvoort also talked about fear often being a huge deterrent for people coming forward and the Naomi Project is committed to continued outreach and education of rights which they feel is paramount to eliminating this fear.

HRC Participation in Community Events – Megan Myers: Myers talked about involvement in community events, such as the upcoming Juneteenth on 6/19/21 and the Pride Parade on 6/26/21. Myers and Grode Wolters said they believe the Commission’s last community event was the Native American Day Parade in 2019. The Commission had gained momentum and planned additional outreach and

awareness for later events, but plans were disrupted by Covid-19. HRC members expressed desire to be more involved with community events as they feel this is a good way to educate the public on HRC and HRC's purpose. Myers and Bannister volunteered to represent HRC at upcoming events.

Update from Board Diversity Recruitment Committee: A motion was made by Grode Wolters and seconded by Yemem to move this agenda item, and the other remaining agenda items, to next month's meeting due to time constraints.

Update from Communications and Outreach Committee: A motion was made by Grode Wolters and seconded by Yemem to move this agenda item, and the other remaining agenda items, to next month's meeting due to time constraints.

HUMAN RELATIONS DIVISION STATISTICS

A motion was made by Grode Wolters and seconded by Yemen to move this agenda item, and the other remaining agenda items, to next month's meeting due to time constraints.

CIVIL RIGHTS UPDATE

A motion was made by Grode Wolters and seconded by Yemem to move this agenda item, and the other remaining agenda items, to next month's meeting due to time constraints. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC INPUT

No public input.

NEXT MEETING

July 8, 2021

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Grode Wolters and seconded by Libengood to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyndsey Meier
Human Relations Specialist