

MINUTES

Thursday March 9th, 2023, 12:00 PM

Human Relations Commission Meeting

Commission Room 1st
Floor—City Hall
224 West Ninth Street
Sioux Falls, South Dakota



Commissioners	Present	Commissioners	Present	Staff	Present
Sheku Bannister	x-video	Anny Libengood		Sharla Svennes	x
Tony Burke - Secretary	x	Megan Myers		Lyndsey Meier	x
Elmar Delibasic	x	Justine Schoolmeester – Vice-chair		Sage Stansell	x
Megan Grode-Wolters - Chair	x-video	Nassir Yemem	x		
Dawn Marie Johnson	x	Kassidi Smith	x		

Guest(s): 1 Guest

1. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM - Quorum Present Meeting called to order 12:01 pm

2. ADOPT AGENDA – M/S/C by Commissioner Burke, Commissioner Smith to approve agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 9, 2023, MEETING - M/S/C by Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Delibasic to approve minutes.

4. HRC OFFICE UPDATE

A. Commissioner Vacancies – Mayor supported recommendations; May meeting is the projected date; goes to council in April 20-day waiting period. Burke interested in VC position.

Language Access Plan – conversations ongoing to support communications to the community; Purple is the company under consideration; building out resources; starting with Attorney’s office to create framework; Megan and Tony attended; solid tools are available; Burke’s takeaway about the proactive lens. Commissioner Delibasic and Yemem expressed concerns and limitations with technology. MS Azure is also a possibility. The in-person relationships must be built, and the technology is a tool in the toolbox.

ACTION: Staff to invite Valeria from the Multicultural Center to provide an update.

B. Provide information about what is and isn’t permissible via email to comply with public meeting laws – staff explained parameters.

C. Naming – Administration unsure about Civil Rights Commission – considering The Office of Discrimination –

ACTION: Commission would like to see name suggestions from administration and continue with Human Relations Commission for this next season.

5. ANY BUSINESS OR PENDING ISSUES TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD

A. Subcommittee Updates

I. **Communications and Outreach** (Chair Bannister, Myers, Johnson, Smith) – Staff Liaison Stansell

• Outstanding Action Items:

- i. **ACTION:** Each commissioner seeks out one person to volunteer to assist at outreach events
- ii. **M/S/C Commissioner Burke, Commissioner Smith** to sign on to events the Human Relations Commission attended last year, and if any “New” to the Human Relations Commission (HRC) are discovered those “New” events shall be presented to the HRC for consideration.

• **Upcoming Events**

- i. Cinco de Mayo – May 13th, 2023
- ii. Festival of Cultures & Pride – June 10th, 2023
- iii. **ACTION:** Please sign up name/number in [Google Sheet](#)
- iv. **Events to Consider** – Commissioner Yemem encouraged HRC to participate in the Kunama Festival.

Also several commissioners mentioned participating in the Parade of Lights and the Native American Day Parade.

II. **Planning work group** (*Co-Chairs Grode-Walters & Burke, Johnson, Delibasic*)

- **Mapping Tool Update** – Meeting with HRO – Phase one internal conversations to define needs: Phase two external partnerships.
- **ACTION:** Consider working with Commissioner Smith and Boys & Girls Clubs to understand key connections in each community as the children the Boys & Girls Club represent many of the diverse communities within the City of Sioux Falls.
- DE&I Board and Committees Information is put together– **ACTION:** HRC to check into status of board/commissions training session
- **Avera Community Health Resource Center (CHWs) Visit** – **ACTION:** Keep a standing meeting; consider making liaison positions.
- **ACTION: 2023 Event Planning Discussion:** Brainstorm ideas. Is it a collaborative/partnership event or solely led by HRC? Type of event – Celebration or Information sharing?
- **Community Ambassadors/HRC Volunteer** – **ACTION:** Commissioner Burke drafting a position description with Tamien Dysart, MCC Table Talk Coordinator, as a joint role. **UPDATE:** Commissioners shared ideas for position description.

III. **Chapter 98 review** (*Grode-Walters, Libengood, Myers, Burke*)

- **ACTION:** Staff will finish suggested edits and review, once complete staff will set a meeting with the subcommittee – Rough Draft to commissioners Sub Work Group is ongoing.

6. OPEN BOARD DISCUSSION/UPDATES FROM COMMISSIONERS

- A. Commissioner Bannister - How do we engage in the schools? What have we done in the past? How do we start? Do we need a liaison? Can we have a conversation with the High Schools/Universities? Can we host a workshop to educate? Seek out understanding from other commissions.

7. GUEST SPEAKER(S) – No guest speakers

8. PUBLIC INPUT – No Public Input

- A. To access meeting dial 1-408-418-9388. When prompted, the access code is 146 793 9225##

9. Adjournment – M/S/C Commissioner Smith, Commissioner to move committee work till next meeting and adjourn at 1:00.