



AGENDA
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
CHASKA CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Thursday, March 28, 2019
6:30 PM

- 1 Roll Call
 - 1A Introduce New Members - Darryl Scarborough and Seth Spreadbury
- 2 Adopt Agenda
- 3 Open Forum/Guest Presentation
- 4 Approve Minutes
 - 4A Human Rights Commission Minutes - January 24, 2019
- 5 Treasurer's Report
 - 5A Treasurer's Report
- 6 Old Business
 - 6A Joint Work Session - June 17, 4:30 - 7:00 pm
 - 6B Discussion: Equity & Inclusion
 - 6C Census - Update on City Involvement
- 7 New Business
 - 7A Discussion: River City Days Booth - July 26-28, 2019
- 8 Announcements
 - 8A Launch Ministry 10th Anniversary Spring Breakfast - Sat. 4/27 9am at Hazeltine
- 9 Next Meeting Date - April 25, 2019
- 10 Adjourn

Chaska Human Rights Minutes

Thursday, January 24

Meeting called to order at 6:30

1. Roll Call

Present: Bean, Carlson, Dunbar, Haga, Welvaert, White

Absent: Leggett

Kabat provided an update on vacancies and alternate members. Colhapp/Kim terms expired effective end of 2018. As a result of those vacancies, Commissioners Bean and White are now full members, leaving two openings for alternates. A good deal of interest in the commission, council will conduct interviews on the first Monday of February and determine who will get those two seats.

2. Motion to adopt the agenda. Moved by Carlson, seconded by Dunbar. Motion approved.

3. Open Forum: No guests.

4. Motion to approve minutes. Moved by Carlson, seconded by White. Motion approved.

5. Treasurer's Report:

With the start of the new year, the budget resets to \$2,000. New year, fresh \$2K in pot. An invoice came for the MLK Breakfast from Red Bench but the council was accounting for that in last year's budget and won't impact the 2019 budget. Kabat circled back to the last meeting, where a motion was considered to make a donation of the remaining budget to Launch Ministry. That is within the parameters of the Council's budget authority, which is for program implementation. He noted that the December balance does not roll over, goes back to "city coffers."

6. New Business

a. Elect officers:

Motion by Haga, second by Dunbar to re-elect Jen Welvaert as Chair, Sarah Carlson as Chair. Motion approved.

Motion by Carlson, second by Dunbar to re-elect Celi Haga as Secretary. Motion approved.

Motion by White, second by Carlson to have Nate Kabat continue to act as Treasurer.

Motion approved.

b. 2019 Goals and Theme

Haga noted that given recent events in the community and the cultural moment we are in, spending time focusing on equity, inclusion, and diversity and how we as a city can have important conversations about these issues seemed both timely and something the HRC would be impactful in facilitating.

Carlson offered census participation as a topic we could address. The city has not adopted the complete census count – an initiative led by the state – and that the HRC could be the focal point for making sure that people are talking about the census in a positive way.

She noted the League of Women Voters of Eastern Carver County has approached her – and Libby Fairchild – to talk about a program they would like to do around April which would be a diversity panel. Thinking about an author who has written on this topic. Maybe willing to partner with them in April.

She also mentioned learning more about the out of poverty program mentioned at MLK breakfast by Alison Streich.

Dunbar noted she loved the census idea, which is going to be really important. She also asked about status of Open Meetings training. Kabat noted that given commissions are getting new appointments soon – and new council members are being seated – they’re looking for a date later in spring when a joint training could be held. Welvaert reiterated the importance of that training and having it done on a regular basis.

Carlson shared the City of Richfield work plan for their HRC>

White asked if there there someone than can look at other HRCs, develop a blueprint for us? She volunteered to do some research into what other commissions are doing.

Bean circled back to goals and theme and liked focusing on inclusion and equity but wondered if it’s possible to have a frank discussion about racism.

Carlson talked about services at Shepherd of the Hill and models to actively reach out and touch members of our community and invite them into the conversation around human rights.

Haga noted that “Chaska for Everybody” is something it seems like the commission and others in the community could get behind.

Carlson asked if the city adopted a Complete Count committee. In looking at one of the roles HRC has as advisors we could recommend that they adopt this format, which could embrace not only government officials, but religious community and others.

Kabat said that the HRC can absolutely advise on what the city could pursue and how HRC can support that work.

White agreed that this year’s a great opportunity to talk about census.

Carlson will send Nate information to distribute to group.

Welvaert charged the group to brainstorm ideas so that at the next meeting the commission can sketch out what the year might look like, delegate work on specific projects and/or events.

7. Old Business

a. MLK breakfast recap

Welvaert applauded the group for a great event. There were 100 people this year. A great job was done getting the word out more and inviting people to come. She mentioned it might be a good idea to put together a survey to send out to the email addresses collected and ask public for feedback.

White indicated interest in working on a survey, noted some of the attendees were band member parents who didn't have context.

Welvaert agreed the topical connection to speakers wasn't necessarily evident.

Kabat indicated the commission could put together a short survey via SurveyMonkey.

Bean noted that in terms of how event flowed, sign-in wasn't a great idea and backed things up a bit, which the commission agreed with. Next year, have a survey on paper ready to go at the tables, which Kabat noted would also be an opportunity to collect emails.

Haga noted that work should be done to make sure the prayer/invocation is non-denominational.

Carlson wasn't sure how the reading selections were chosen, maybe next year we can work more closely with students involved.

Kabat said it was a great opportunity for young people to be involved and support them in front of their community and involve the larger community in the celebration.

White asked if there were thank you notes available, and Kabat noted that if someone drafted something he would get it sent out via city stationery.

Welvaert brought up a piece of Leggett's feedback – that HRC consider appointing someone to coordinate events/activities in February. Good idea, because if one person is spearheading it, they can be the contact person with Jeff, and then throughout the year keep HRC on track. She will put this on February agenda.

b. Transfer of Memory Exhibit

Nate reported the final calendar still being firmed up. No specific dates, but by and large, HRC is providing an opening support, parks and rec is in good shape. There will be opportunities to attend events and be involved. Sunday, February 10th, larger event from 6:30 – 8:00 – Judy Meisl, holocaust survivor, will be there. Her grandson, Ben Cohen, will be there to share her story and she'll be awarded 2018 FBI Community Leader Award.

The exhibit will be in gallery space at Community Center, please encourage folks to attend. It dovetails with the theme HRC is talking about. Learn from our history, be inclusive and accepting of that.

White reminded everyone to wear their HRC nametags to these events.

Carlson noted before the meeting adjourned that MN Secretary of State Steve Simon will be at the League of Women Voters meeting on March 19th at 6:30 and present his Investing in Democracy agenda at the Chanhassen Public Library Thornton Wilder Room.

8. Motion to adjourn made by Carlson, seconded by Dunbar. Meeting adjourned at 7:37.

**REQUEST FOR ACTION
CHASKA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
March 28, 2019**

Subject: **Treasurer's Report**

Prepared By: Nate Kabat

Balance and New Expenditures:

Balance: Jan. 2019	\$2,000
New Expenses	NA
Balance: March 2019	\$2,000

REQUEST FOR ACTION
CHASKA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
March 28, 2019

Subject: **Joint Work Session - June 17, 4:30 - 7:00 pm**

Prepared By: Nate Kabat

The City will be holding a joint work session with the Council and all Boards/Commissions on June 17 from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers. This joint meeting will be for Pamela Whitmore from the League of MN Cities to come conduct a training related to general governance, open meeting law, data practices, and other related topics which are important for elected and appointed officials to understand. During this session, Matt Podhradsky will also provide an overview of the City's mission, vision, and strategic goals.

We believe this will be good timing for the training as its one of the first meetings following the special election on May 14th for the Ward 2 and Ward 4 Council seats. Additionally, we've had a number of new people join the Boards/Commissions recently, so introducing everyone to these important topics will be helpful.

Whether you are new to your position, or have been serving for a number of years, the training will be relevant to you as a City Official and you are strongly encouraged to attend.

More information will be shared about the training as June 17th gets closer.