

Zoom Option

In order to practice social distancing related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Chaska Human Rights Commission meeting on Thursday, March 25th, 2021 will be held **virtually on a platform called Zoom**. To learn more about participating or watching the meetings, visit www.chaskamn.com. Any questions about how to participate should be directed to the Chaska Communication Department at communications@chaskamn.com or (952)448-9200.



AGENDA CHASKA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION ZOOM Thursday, May 27, 2021 6:30 PM

- 1 Roll Call
- 2 Adopt Agenda
- 3 Open Forum/Guest Presentation
 - 3A Visitor Presentation - Chief Ryan Seibert - Police Department Update
- 4 Approve Minutes
 - 4A Draft Minutes - April 22, 2021
- 5 Treasurer's Report
 - 5A Treasurer's Report - 2021
- 6 Committee Updates
 - 6A Calendar Committee
 - 6Ai June - Pride Celebration
 - 6B Program Committee
 - 6Bi Visitor Presentations

- 6C Webpage Committee
- 6D MLK Celebration Committee
- 6E River City Days Committee
- 6F Empathetic Response Committee
- 7 Old Business
 - 7A Chaska Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Update
- 8 New Business
 - 8A COVID Transition Plan for Public Meetings
- 9 Next Meeting Date - June 24 via Zoom
- 10 Adjourn



Minutes
CHASKA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
ZOOM
Thursday, April 22, 2021
6:30 PM

1. Roll Call

Present: Carlson, Welvaert, Hubbard, Castillo, S. White, Haga, L. White
Absent: Spreadbury, Sandison, Hughes

2. Adopt Agenda

Motion: Haga

Second: L. White

Kabat Roll Call Vote: Carlson, Welvaert, Hubbard, Castillo, S. White, Haga, L. White

Motion Carried

3. Open Forum/Guest Presentation

3A Visitor Presentation – Marshall Grange – Parks Programming Update
Marshall Grange was not able to attend the meeting. Kabat summarized the Parks and Recreation Department Happenings. Kabat shared the Parks and Recreation Department would like your insight/thoughts and can be sent to either him or Marshall Grange. (Please see below)



PR Updates- HRC-
April 22.pdf

Commissioner Carlson commented Kabat's overview reflects the programming to reach all members of our community and nice to see. Commissioner Carlson is looking forward to seeing the activities and how the HRC can help Parks and Recreation carry this out this year.

4. Approve Minutes

4A - HRC Minutes – Draft Minutes – March 25, 2020 (Commissioner Carlson will send Kabat her changes to the minutes.

Motion: Welvaert approved with pending corrections

Second: Hubbard

Kabat Roll Call Vote: Carlson, Welvaert, Hubbart, Castillo, S. White, Haga,
L. White

Motion Carried

5. Treasurer's Report

5A. Treasurer's Report 2021

Kabat reported no new expenses for April, the balance remains at \$1,925.00.

Commissioner Welvaert inquired about an upcoming expense regarding HRC t-shirts for new commissioners. Kabat expressed, yes if new commissioners want to order t-shirts and the commission agrees to the expense, t-shirts can be ordered. If interested, e-mail Nate your size for the t-shirt.

Motion:

Second:

Kabat Roll Call Vote:

Motion Carried

6. New Business

6A. Chaska Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Update

Commissioner Carlson provided a Chaska Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Update. Commissioner Carlson has been representing the HRC on the Project Steering Committee. Recently the City (Parks and Recreation Department) has hired Antonio Rosell with Community Design Group to develop an online survey and a wiki map, asking about walking and/or bicycle in Chaska. The wiki map is designed for people to draw where they think another bike/walking area could or should be added. Also, allows marking places of interest that may or may not be accessible by our trail system. In the next few days, the community will be able to sign on to a link to complete the survey and use the map feature. The design group is hoping to achieve 1,000 responses to get feedback about walking and biking in Chaska. Commissioner Carlson encourages the Commission to take the time to fill out the survey. The steering committee is hoping to develop a plan going forward for this year. From an HRC standpoint, it allows us the opportunity to say this area of our city is unserved or not clearly marked. Commissioner Carlson encourages the commission to look for the link from the Bicycle Awareness Committee coming in the next few days. Commissioner Carlson is also requesting the commission to share with your network of friends. The goal is to achieve 1,000 responses. All feedback will be taken and put into action this year. Kabat emphasized the commissions help to spread the word and encouraging feedback. Having the HRC involvement in transportation (biking/walking) is critical to access basic needs in our community.

Commissioner Welvaert inquired about the commission discussed in the past, she understood it as recognizing our community as a bike-friendly community? Is this one of the end goals? Kabat responded, yes this is one of the end goals. The community has been working on wayfinding signage.

7. Old Business:

7A. Committee Updates

Commissioner Carlson shared the commission should have received a listing of the committee updates; several committees have met already. Commissioner Carlson thought it would be helpful to do a quick report of the committees.

MLK Celebration – (Members: Carlson, Welvaert, S. White)

Commissioner Welvaert shared they met on April 14th to begin initial plans for the event. Started a list of potential keynote speakers at this time. Plan to meet again on May 12th, 2021.

River City Day's – (Members: Hubbard, Spreadbury, L. White)

Commissioner L. White shared the committee has not met at this time. She would like the HRC committee to think about volunteering at the booth. Kabat will explore methods for the committee to be able to sign up. Commissioner L. White inquired if we need any new information, including the new e-mail, possibly a new pamphlet. Inventory of items was sent out. Kabat recommends the RCD commission come to City Hall to evaluate the inventory the commission currently has. Commissioner L. White along with others is trying to come up with a theme, a possible suggestion is "Celebrating Community". Open to theme ideas from the commissioners, please send to Commissioner L. White. The Commission will be meeting soon. Commissioner Carlson inquired if the commission has heard from the RCD Committee regarding a date? Kabat shared this year's dates are July 23rd – 25th which is what they are currently aiming for. Commissioner Welvaert noted the booth is usually open only Friday, and Saturday, not generally on Sunday. Kabat asked if the RCD committee would like assistance with helping organize a time to meet? Commissioner Hubbard thought it would be helpful, Kabat to set something up.

Calendar Committee – (Members: Hubbard, Sandison, Spreadbury)

Commissioner Hubbard shared the committee has not had a chance to meet at this time. Kabat will assist this committee as well for options to meet.

Program Committee – (Members: Carlson and Hubbard)

Commissioner Carlson shared this committee has not met at this time. Commissioner Carlson and Commissioner Hubbard will be in contact.

Webpage Committee – (Members: Carlson and Sandison)

Commissioner Carlson noted they met with Kevin Wright and Kabat. Good ideas being generated and ready to bring back to the commission either next month or in June.

Empathetic Response Committee – (Members: Castillo and Spreadbury)

Commissioner Carlson shared with the commission her sincere thanks to Commissioner's Castillo and Spreadbury for crafting a wonderful statement regarding the rise of Anti-Asian hate. The words were very thoughtful, very positive presentation to the City Council, and was very pleased with the council's response. Commissioner Castillo gave a big thanks to Commissioner Spreadbury for presenting to the council. Commissioner Castillo gave special thanks to the council and the Mayor for engaging in the conversation. Felt it was powerful to hear and felt that is what the community needed to hear from our community leaders. Commissioners Castillo and Spreadbury will be keeping eyes on the news and events around the world. If any of the commission believes we should be saying something about an event, please contact Commissioner Castillo or Kabat. The commission is invited to jump in whenever you think you have the right words to say.

Commissioner Welvaert shared Commissioners Castillo and Spreadbury did a beautiful job, she is pleased to see statements from HRC and the council. Shared it is happening more frequently and hopes to continue to support our community members. Commissioner Carlson shared Commissioner Castillo would like the commission to think more about the Chaska Police Department, hoping the Commissioners had a chance to read the email that was included in the packet.

Commissioner Castillo would like to invite the chief of police to an HRC meeting to present to the commission policing in general, the use of force along with specific questions. Kabat spoke to Chief Seibert and he is more than willing to present to the HRC and very much would like to partner with the commission. Could look into a possible May meeting but is flexible

Commissioner Carlson asked Commissioner Hubbard his thoughts about a program in May with the Chief? Commissioner Hubbard expressed it would be a great idea. Expressed Chief Seibert has a great presence when he is speaking in

person to the public. Commissioner Carlson asked Kabat to confirm with Chief the conversation in May. Commissioner Carlson inquired can we ask that we have a special notice of the meeting on Social Media? Commissioner Haga expressed Kevin Wright does a good job with sharing, he posts the agenda and gives a synopsis of what is on the agenda. Commissioner Haga suggests the commission share and network, this helps to elevate the event.

Kabat shared Chief Seibert has started coffee with a cop, this gives the opportunity for people to get to know Chief Seibert. This will become more regular at other locations. If anyone on the commission wants to approach Chief Seibert, he is always willing to engage in conversation.

Kabat to invite and lock in Chief Seibert as the HRC guest speaker in May's meeting.

Commissioner Carlson expressed, hopefully during the next month the committees can meet to make more progress and appreciates any google meet help that Kabat can set up.

8. Next Meeting Date – May 27, 2021

9. Adjourn

Motion: Haga

Second: Welvaert

STAFF REPORT
CHASKA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
May 27, 2021

Subject: **Treasurer's Report - 2021**

Prepared By: Nate Kabat

Balance and Expenditures:

2021 Beginning Balance:	\$2,000
January	-
February	-
March	
Business Cards (3 sets)	\$75.00
April	-
May	
T-shirts (3)	\$42.00
Balance:	\$1,883

REQUEST FOR ACTION

CHASKA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

May 27, 2021

Subject: June - Pride Celebration

Prepared By: Nate Kabat

Background

Nationally, June is generally accepted as Pride Month which is a celebration of the LGBTQ+ community. As such, the Calendar Committee would like to pursue an inaugural Pride celebration in Chaska in the month of June. The Calendar Committee would like to initiate an event that feels open and welcoming to all. To start, they want to create a simple opportunity for people to gather. The Committee isn't thinking the event would be very large this year. Their desire is to start small and possibly seek to grow the event in future years based on input from attendees and general community reception.

Update

The following outline provides an overview of the direction the Calendar Committee is pursuing. This has also been discussed with the Program Committee. Both have expressed support for this concept. The Committees seek input from the Commission as a whole. A couple key decisions are requested from the Commission as outlined in the following.

- Date/Location: City Square Park is open the afternoon of June 26 (after 3:00 – there is a wedding early afternoon) and all-day June 27. The park is on hold both days until we determine which date.
 - o The Calendar Committee discussed a desire to potentially align with the Minneapolis Pride celebration with the intent to join or attend the parade. However, Tessa Syverson (Recreation Supervisor) has learned that, due to COVID, the Pride Fest in Minneapolis will be July 17-18 this year and a parade will not be held.
 - o For future consideration, we did connect with SW Transit and they are willing to assist with transportation to bring people to the Pride parade in Minneapolis and back. Doing a special service like this would require additional staffing, so they would need to have a group of at least 25 to justify the trip and would want to know one week in advance.

- Food:
 - The Calendar Committee has discussed a desire to have some food offerings. Ideas have included a burger fry and/or an ice cream social. Both ideas require budget and equipment (ie. grill and/or freezer), which can all be accommodated if the Commission agrees food would be beneficial to the event.
 - I have approached the owner of Red Bench Bakery. He has a portable freezer that could be used for this event to keep ice cream.
 - One option to consider would be to invite food trucks to attend.
- Activities:
 - Tessa Syverson has identified the following potential activities to consider:
 - Parachute Parks & Rec has 2 rainbow parachutes.
 - Sidewalk Chalk- Artists from the Arts Consortium of Carver County may have interest in joining. Can also have chalk available for people to do their own artwork
 - Hire a face painter (\$300)
 - Music: Hire a DJ for 2 hours (\$400-\$500)
 - Or could see if musicians from the ACCC are available
 - A movie short called Out is available on Disney+ (12 min). Parks & Rec can do an outdoor screening.
 - Buttons or pins to hand out to show support and that Chaska is all inclusive, Chaska in RAINBOW?
 - Parks & Rec also has the Block Party wagon, which is chalk full of yard games.
- Partnerships:
 - I presented this idea to the Chaska Downtown Business Alliance. They are open to considering a request, but seek clarity on how we'd like their involvement.
 - I do think there are businesses in Downtown and throughout Chaska who could be approached to ask for sponsorship or donations of food and activities.
 - I am meeting Chaska High School Gay Student Alliance on May 26th to seek their ideas and possible partnership.

DECISION POINTS

- 1. What date do we want to hold the event? June 26, June 27, or align with Pride Fest the weekend of July 17?**
- 2. Should food be offered? If so, what should we pursue?**
- 3. Is the Human Rights Commission interested in contributing funds to support activities and food? If so, I recommend establishing an up to amount and identifying the acceptable types of expenses that the HRC is ok with staff using the funds for.**

STAFF REPORT
CHASKA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
May 27, 2021

Subject: Visitor Presentations

Prepared By: Nate Kabat

Background

The Program Committee has identified the following recommendations for speakers to invite to upcoming HRC meetings. The Committee seeks the Commission's review, input, and approval to proceed with extending the invitation per the following calendar outline.

1. June: Cassie Bernhardt, Gay Straight Alliance at Chaska High School
2. July: Nate Kabat, Downtown City Square West Update
3. August: Robin Gordon, ISD 112 Equity Director
4. September: Panel Discussion on Housing opportunities in Chaska
 - a. Point of discussion: If a panel discussion is pursued, would September's meeting be best formatted as a work session?

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION ACTION REQUESTED

Motion to approve extending invitations to prospective guest presenters as defined in this staff report.

STAFF REPORT

CHASKA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

April 22, 2021

Subject: Chaska Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Update

Prepared By: Nate Kabat

Background

The City of Chaska is pursuing an effort to establish a Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan to:

- Improve safety and comfort for all users of the City's transportation network
- Increase the number of people walking and biking in the City
- Improve community health, quality of life and enjoyment for all Chaska residents, employees and visitors
- Support ongoing efforts to become an even more walking- and biking-friendly community

The City of Chaska Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan will provide guidance for the next ten years of City investments into infrastructure to support pedestrians any bicyclists.

Because mobility is a topic that impacts everyone's ability to access basic needs like employment, healthcare, and basic goods and services, Sarah Carlson is representing the Human Rights Commission on the Project Steering Committee.

A website has been created for this project to learn more details. Visit this link:

<https://www.walkbikechaska.org/>

The project's current focus is on public input using two methods:

1. Online Survey: <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6266559/WalkBikeChaska>
2. Wikimap: <https://wikimapping.com/WalkBikeChaska.html>

The goal is to achieve 1,000 responses. Please consider including your feedback and also promoting this to you contacts.

The most recent meeting was held May 4, 2021. Commissioner Carlson will provide an update.

STAFF REPORT
CHASKA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
May 27, 2021

Subject: COVID Transition Plan for Public Meetings

Prepared By: Nate Kabat

On March 16, 2020 the Chaska City Council passed a resolution declaring a local emergency. Under the emergency declaration public meetings including Council and Board/Commission meetings have been able to be held using remote technology; namely Zoom.

In June, the Council will take up a resolution to lift the emergency declaration effective July 1, 2021. Per State Statute, without an emergency declaration in place all elected and appointed officials of Councils and Boards/Commissions must attend public meetings in person. As a result, the Human Rights Commission will begin meeting at City Hall Council Chambers effective July 22, 2021.

The City Council does recognize that Zoom has been a useful tool to encourage public access to meetings. As a result, Zoom will continue to be an option for the public to participate in Council and Board/Commission meetings going forward. As mentioned previously, State Statute dictates that elected and appointed officials need to attend in person.