



Minutes
CHASKA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
Thursday, October 28, 2021
6:30 PM

1. Roll Call

Present: Carlson, Haga, Hubbard (arrived at 6:35 p.m.), Spreadbury, Welvaert, S. White

Absent: Hughes, Sandison

2. Adopt Agenda

Motion: Haga

Second: Welvaert

Motion: Carried

3. Open Forum/Guest Presentation

3A. Guest Presentation - Kelli Brenny with Diversity with Books Program, Eastern Carver County Schools

Kelli Brenny explained this program provides information on how to create and support cultural diversity in a school classroom by increasing inventory of diverse books and literature. Another goal is to increase community partnerships and guest readers.

Chair Carlson inquired about how would books be distributed, what books are in need and how to vet them. Brenny responded connecting with school media specialists and using a search engine called Destiny Quest. The vetting of books would be done by EAC.

Chair Carlson wondered what monetary amount they were asking for. Brenney stated it would cost \$599.51 for one copy of each book on their list through Amazon.

Commissioner Spreadbury wondered if Brenney would prefer one copy of many books or many copies of a few books. Brenney responded they would prefer one copy of each book so it can be distributed to various schools if needed.

Commissioner Welvaert questioned what the donation process would look like. Brenny said they would gather information on it and circle back to them.

Kabat wondered if other cities have been approached and if the donation comes from HRC, would the books only go to schools in Chaska. Brenney said books would be distributed throughout the district.

Commissioner Spreadbury asked about a timeline. Brenney answered they would be ready in fall of 2022.

Chair Carlson thanked them for their presentation and their purpose. Kabat would like to speak to them to find ways city staff can partner to read to students.

4. Approve Minutes

4A. Adopt Meeting Minutes – September 23, 2021

Commissioner Welvaert requested a correction to change zoom to in-person

Motion: Welvaert as amended

Second: Hubbard

Motion: Carried

5. Treasurer's Report

5A. Treasurer's Report - 2021

Kabat reported there is a \$665 outlay in process to be paid. The balance is \$1290, a difference of \$625 left to spend.

Motion: Spreadbury

Second: Hubbard

Motion: Carried

Commissioner Welvaert wondered about the cost of the Human Rights Award. Kabat will find out an approximate cost of award.

6. Committee Updates

6A. Budget

Chair Carlson reported it has been sent to the City Council.

6B. River City Days Committee

6Ai. River City Day's Update

Chair Carlson reported the committee ordered the fans and Commissioner Spreadbury stated they tabled the idea of spending more money from the \$625 dollars that is left in the budget. Commissioner Welvaert suggested a decision be made earlier in the year regarding supplies so they get delivered on time. Kabat stated the fans have not yet arrived.

6B. Calendar Committee

There was nothing to report.

6C. MLK Update Committee

On October 13, 2021 the committee met with a Parks and Recreation representative to discuss involvement in art or video projects from schools, asking students what MLK's dream means to them or how it plays out in their community. Connections were made at the Art Consortium and with the Southwest Chamber of Commerce. Chair Carlson interpreted the discussion with the Chamber that they will not be able to help financially but did offer to offset printing costs, coloring books, and would love to be part of group at MLK day. Commissioner Haga would like to facilitate the help for this committee.

6Ci. City of Chaska Human Rights Award recognizes an individual, group or organization that is advancing human rights and making a difference in the community. Nominations can come from anyone in the city. Kabat recommended the HRC nominations be due at the December meeting. Kabat advised the November meeting would be better but that doesn't leave much time for applicants.

6D. Program Committee

Chair Carlson does not have any guest speakers for the November or December meetings. Commissioner Haga wondered if anyone from the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee could come speak to the committee in November since it is National Indigenous People's Month.

6E. Webpage Committee

Chair Carlson reported Kevin is working on it.

6F. Empathetic Response Committee

Commissioner Spreadbury reported it is on-going.

7. New Business:

7A. American Indian Parent Advisory Group.

Chair Carlson met with them in September and offered opportunities to partner with district families. The Advisory Group did not have any specifics on what the relationship between the Advisory Group and the HRC would look like. A representative from this group would be more than happy to come back and talk.

7B. Chair Carlson attended the Human Rights and Diversity Commission in Eden Prairie. The HRC may want to take a look at it for 2022.

7C. Diversity of Books

Chair Carlson asked Commission if this is something they want to support.

Commissioner Haga abstained from the discussion and vote. The HRC supported

the idea but had some questions regarding book distribution, funding, possible donations and budget expenditures. Commissioner Haga wondered if Diversity with Books could give HRC a proposal for a budget and plan at the November meeting. Kabat agreed to put it on the November meeting agenda.

7D. Marnitas Table

Chair Carlson discussed a variety of events raising awareness for this initiative. Kabat mentioned Marnitas Table Initiative allows Carver County Public Health to reach out to various communities. Commissioner Welvaert would love to serve on that committee as a representative from the HRC.

7E. Parks And Recreation Facility Planning

Kabat stated this effort will be kicking off early 2022. Community Center is 30 years old and what investments need to be made going forward.

8. Next Meeting Date – Nov. 18, 2021 and Dec. 16, 2021 at City Hall Council Chambers.

9. Adjourn

Motion: Spreadbury

Second: Hubbard

Motion: Carried

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.