



AGENDA
CHASKA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
CHASKA CITY HALL - COUNCIL CHAMBERS & ZOOM
Thursday, April 25, 2024
6:30 PM

1. Roll Call
2. Adopt Agenda
3. Open Forum/Guest Presentation
4. Approve Minutes
 - 4.A. Approve Meeting Minutes - March 28, 2024
5. Treasurer's Report
 - 5.A. Treasurer's Report - April 2024
6. New Business
 - 6.A. "Conversations on R.A.C.E." -Adonai Yidnekachew
7. Old Business
 - 7.A. MLK Human Rights Celebration
 - 7.B. Women's Appreciation
 - 7.C. Asian and Pacific Islander Recognition
 - 7.D. Pride Celebration
 - 7.E. River City Days
 - 7.F. Cultural Heritage Month
 - 7.G. Indigenous People Recognition
 - 7.H. Veteran Acknowledgment
 - 7.I. Community Partnerships
8. Next Meeting Date-May 23, 2024
9. Adjourn



Minutes
CHASKA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
Thursday, March 28, 2024
6:30 PM

1. Roll Call

Present: Chairperson Carlson, Vice Chairperson Welvaert, Commissioners Hanne Sandison, Brittany Haanan, Yousif Hamza, Youth Representative Juhi Ghatti, and City Staff Elise Durbin

Absent: Commissioners Ali-Daar, LeSueur, Hubbard, and Mee

2. Adopt Agenda

Motion to remove item 6.A. from the Agenda

Motion: Chair Carlson

Second: Commissioner Welvaert

Motion: Carried

Motion to approved agenda as amended.

Motion: Commissioner Haanan

Second: Commissioner Ghatti

Motion: Carried

3. Open Forum/Guest Presentation

3.A. Justin Page, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Minnesota, Civil Rights Units

Justin Page explained about the Civil Rights Unit he is a part of at the Department of Justice. He shared the many different types of cases he deals with in his practice and answered questions asked by the Commission.

4. Approve Minutes

4.A. Adopt Meeting Minutes – February 22, 2024

Motion: Commissioner Ghatti

Second: Commissioner Haanan

Motion: Carried

5. Treasurer's Report

5.A. Treasurer's Report 2023

Durbin reported March expenses as follows: Shirts for the new Commissioner members have been purchased and the members have received their shirts. There is around \$5900 remaining for the year.

Motion: Commissioner Welvaert
Second: Commissioner Haanan
Motion Carried

6. New Business

6.A. "Conversations on R.A.C.E." - Adonai Yidnekachew
This item was removed upon adoption of the agenda.

7. New Business:

7.A. MLK Human Rights Celebration

Chair Carlson asked the Commission for any ideas they might have for the next MLK celebration.

7.B. Women's Appreciation

Staff Durbin reported that the subcommittee met and discussed the plans for this year's plans. She shared that the group has made a call for nominations. The Commission discussed starting plans for Women's Appreciation earlier for the next year.

7.C. Asian and Pacific Islander Recognition

Nothing to report.

7.D. Pride Celebration

Commissioner Welvaert reported that the subcommittee has met a few times. The subcommittee met with a few different possible partners for the event. The celebration will be held Saturday, June 22, from 3-6 p.m. at Veterans Park. They are planning to have several different activities for the event. She discussed the possibility of having booths for different businesses and groups to be able to buy for a small cost. She shared that they would like to get a DJ for this event.

Commissioner Welvaert asked for the Commission to approve the budget of up to \$2000 for this event.

Motion: Commissioner Welvaert
Second: Commissioner Haanan
Motion: Carried

7.E. River City Days

Nothing to report.

7.F. Cultural Heritage Month

Commissioner Ghatti shared that she would like to redirect the focus of the event to cultures all around the world instead of just focusing on African culture.

7.G. Indigenous Peoples Recognition

Nothing to report.

7.H. Veterans Acknowledgement

Chair Carlson shared they would like to start planning something soon.

7.I. Community Partnerships

Chair Carlson reported that she met with the Communities of Belonging and discussed what they would like to do to take the next steps in restoring some of their original values when the City of Chaska was created in the 80's.

7.J. Other Communications

Nothing to report.

8. Next Meeting Date – April 25, 2024 at City Hall Council Chambers and Zoom.

9. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

CHASKA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

April 25, 2024

2024 Beginning Balance:	\$6,500
January	
Coffee (MLK Day event)	(\$155.98)
Pastries (MLK Day event)	(\$93.75)
Human Rights Award Plaques	(\$148.74)
Tablecloths (MLK Day event)	(\$23.03)
Fruit (Carver Community Connect)	(\$11.96)
Hooked on Books Sponsorship	(\$100.00)
February	
March	
Commissioners T-Shirts	(\$36.00)
April	
May	
June	
Pride Celebration budget	(\$2,000.00)
July	
August	
September	
October	
November	
December	
Balance:	\$3,930.54

Notes:

- Pride Celebration budget approved at March 2024 HRC meeting

conversations
on **R.A.C.E.**
RACISM AND CULTURAL EDUCATION



Adonai Yidnekachew

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Mission + Vision Statement

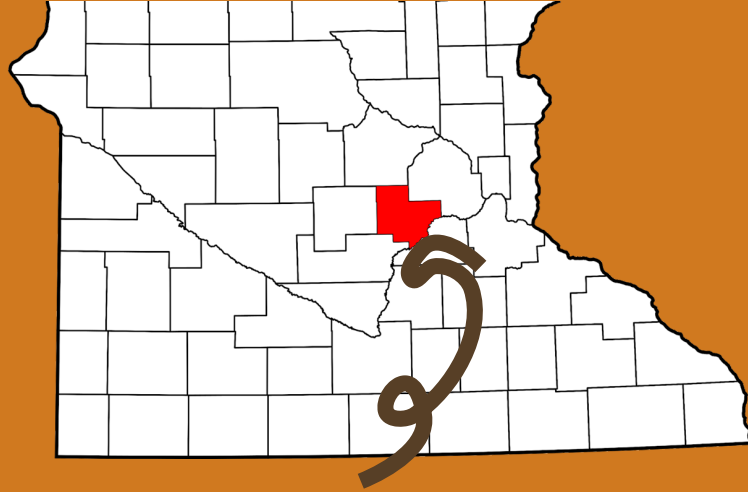
Conversations on R.A.C.E is a non-profit organization that aims to start up more conversations about racism and culture in our communities to be more aware of the reality, the beauty and issues of our community so we can build it up together with more knowledge of each other.

How do you wish to do this?

facilitate in-person life-changing conversations as a resource for the community to build a space where peers are respected and acknowledged.



Where will this impact expand to?



Start in Chaska, but hope to expand within Carver County within community.

Problem aim to address:

The lack of conversation on cultural education between community members and awareness/ignorance of anti-racism in Carver County.

**How will this organization solve
this problem?**

Why? Behind the organization

Chaska, Minnesota → <17% of people of color.

History at Chaska High School

Why? Behind the organization

The sad truth is, because there are currently no outlets for POC to discuss our culture and be our authentic selves, we forced to assimilate and suppress it. Their aren't EXPLICIT conversations taking place

Because of ignorance of the majority.

Why? Behind the organization



Lead by work by the S.O.A.R Club

To create ongoing conversations about racism and implementing cultural education in our community.

Why Conversations?

“Conversations hold immense power. They help us form new connections and deepen existing ones. They can change minds, align brains, save lives—even prevent disaster on a global scale.”

-APA (American Psychological Association)

Why Conversations?

Communities of Belonging



Conversation are the beginning of knowledge and
connect intimate experiences that allow us grow as
we share and listen



The S.O.A.R Club

Our Goals:

- The scale in which we hope to do this is start at our local community, Chaska, and once we get a hang of it, the goal is Carver County and surrounding towns.
- In-person events
- Recorded discussions (Private/Public)
- Spark conversations that change people's hearts, knowledge of others and created an increased sense of cultural education and awareness
- Conversations that lead towards potential policy changes in found discriminatory practices.

Visual of Conversations



“People consistently avoid deep conversations—especially with strangers—partly because we worry that the conversations will feel awkward or that we’ll run out of things to say. But research shows that deep conversations feel less awkward and lead to more connectedness and happiness than people predict”

~ APA

How will this Organization Run?

Current Ideas:

- + Starting Conversations in Different Spaces
 - + Will provide opportunities to strike conversations in different groups in Chaska to allow for a more connected and informed environment
 - + Will include a CTA question
 - + Recorded Conversations → Youtube
 - + Collect necessary data
- + Provide Trainings
 - + Provide reports on feedback sessions to improve the environment for all

Future Plans:

- + Create In-Person Events
 - + Many gather together to host small group and large group conversations with the community

Mock Conversation at Chaska High School

MOCK Report on Responses

How will we need CHR help?

- Bringing in community members to be a part of these conversations when events come up
- Connecting Conversations in R.A.C.E with places in Chaska that we should reach out to, to initiate these conversations
- Facilitate their own discussions to gain feedback
- Start up Fund

Why is funding necessary?

Budget Breakdown

PROJECT NAME:	Conversations on R.A.C.E	TOTAL COST:	\$2,660.00
ITEM	QUANTITY	PER ITEM COST	TOTAL COST
What is this money for?	How many of that item will you need?		
Lights + Microphones			\$100
Camera + Memory			\$2,000.00
Tripod			\$40.00
Spaces for recording			\$500.00
Website Costs			\$20.00

conversations
on **R.A.C.E.**
RACISM AND CULTURAL EDUCATION

**Thank you for considering a proposal
to change the future of Chaska+!**