

Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes

03/13/2019

I. Call to order

Victoria called to order the regular meeting of the Human Rights Commission at 12:30p on 3/13/19 at City Hall (Gold Room).

II. Roll call

No one conducted a roll call. The following persons were present: Lynne Olson, Abby Kocher, Darci Klecan, Michelle, Victoria McWane- Creek on speakerphone.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

No one read or approved minutes from last meeting as there were none.

IV. Open issues

- a) Roles to be assigned to member- Abby Nominated Victoria & Michelle seconded it. Victoria appointed as Chairperson. Secretary & vice chair to be determined at next meeting.
- b) Meeting time. 2nd Wed of the month at 12:30 does not work for Darci. Victoria will send out a survey to gather other times that work for all members.
- c) What does the commission do? Lynne will provide a flow chart showing the steps that are taken for issues. Committee of the whole... City council....

V. New business

- a) Update duties of commission. We need to come up with an annual report including a work plan to submit to the council. End of year report to be completed in Dec.
- b) Goals for commission. Everyone will bring ideas to next meeting.
- c) The group has decided to go through the ottertail website to read past meetings minutes to see what has been done before.
- d) Victoria provided the group with reading materials she brought back from a conference about Human Rights.

VI. Adjournment

Victoria adjourned the meeting after Darci motioned at 1:10pm & Abby seconded.

Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes

I. Call to order

Victoria called to order the regular meeting of the Human Rights Commission at 12:34p on 4/17/19 at City Hall (Council Chambers).

II. Roll call

The following members were present: Darci Klecan, Victoria McWane- Creek, Becky Schwarzhoff.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting after minutes amended during meeting

Becky motioned to approve amended minutes from 3/13/19 meeting & Victoria seconded. Motion carried.

IV. Agenda Items

a) *Election of officers*

Vice chair- tabled until next meeting. Secretary- Darci

b) *Discussion of materials brought by Victoria to first meeting*

Tabled until next meeting when more members can attend

c) *Future Meeting times*

Victoria will send out survey to all committee members for available days

V. New business

a) *Broad discussion about ideas for HRC to focus on*

Housing in Fergus Falls (safety, affordability, quality)

PBS- Jim Crowe of the North (Redlining of the Cities)

Statistics

b) *Discussion among present members as to why they joined HRC*

VI. Adjournment

Becky made motion to adjourn meeting at 1:36pm. Victoria seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Darci to Lynne Olson 5/21/19

Human Rights Commission
Meeting Minutes
5/22/19

I. Call to order at 12:41pm.

Roll call not performed since only Victoria & Darci present. Quorum not established. Meeting could not be held.

II. Approval of minutes from last meeting

III. Open issues

- a) ...
- b) ...
- c) ...

IV. New business

- a) Next meeting date set for 06/11/19 at 12:30pm in City Council Chambers.
- b) ...
- c) ...
- d) ...

V. Adjournment

Victoria adjourned meeting at 12:42pm.

Minutes submitted by: Darci to Lynne Olson 6/10/19

Minutes approved by:

Human Rights Commission
Meeting Minutes
6/11/19

I. Call to order at 12:34pm.

Victoria, Abby & Darci present.

II. Approval of minutes from last meeting- (4/17 & 5/22)-Abby motioned to approve, Victoria seconded.

III. Review & approval of Agenda- Abby motioned & Darci Seconded.

IV. Open issues

- a) Election of a Vice Chair- discussed & concluded it would be removed from agenda.
- b) Discussion of MN Human Rights Comm Materials-No further Discussion as not all members present.
- c) Future meeting times- No July meeting. Next one will be Aug 13th at 12:30. Meetings after that will be the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 12:30 in council chambers.
- d) House in Fergus Falls (safety, affordability, quality)- Discussion of items that Victoria sent before the meeting including statistics of income & available housing in FF.

V. New business

- a) Victoria & Darci will bring to next meeting Legal eviction information & legal aid information.
- b) Rural Equity Summit- Martin Luther King Day in FF at Mstate or Lakes Country- RE: Equity in rural communities (Professional Development Day)
- c) Abby will provide feedback at the next meeting about State Attorney Ellison public listening session from 6/21/19 in regards to Discrimination.

VI. Adjournment

Victoria adjourned meeting at 1:42pm.

Minutes submitted by: Darci to Lynne Olson 8/12/19

Minutes approved by:

Human Rights Commission
Meeting Minutes
8/13/19

I. Call to order at 12:31pm.

Victoria, Abby, Becky & Darci present.

II. Approval of minutes from last meeting- (6/11)-Abby motioned to approve, Becky seconded.

III. Review & approval of Agenda- Abby motioned & Becky Seconded.

IV. Open issues

- a) Discussion of HRC priorities. The HRC would like to post a public poll on the City of FF Facebook page asking the community what they feel we should focus on. Darci will contact Lynn about that. We will use the MN DHS Human Rights definition to make poll.

V. New business

- a) Victoria brought up the idea of requesting that Columbus Day be referred to as Indigenous People day on Oct 14th from the Mayor. The HRC members present agreed. Victoria will set up an informal meeting with Mayor Ben Scheirer to see if this proposal is something we could go forward with (following the guidelines of getting the idea presented to the City Council)
- b) Discussion of Declaration of Human Rights Day (Dec 10th) as it is the 70th year anniversary & the HRC could possibly do some kind of event. Victoria will also bring this up with informal meeting with the Mayor.
- c) Abby provided feedback from the meeting with State Attorney Ellison public listening session from 6/21/19 in regards to Discrimination. The top items discussed were immigration, pro-life, benefit fraud, mental health/ chemical dependency awareness.
- d) Upcoming event that would be beneficial for HRC members to attend:

FF Diversity Equity Inclusion Community of Practice Wed: Aug 21st 10-12. Topic Poverty.

Community Leadership program- Grand Rapids Jan 27-31

Rural Equity Summit- Martin Luther King Day in FF at MState 1/20/20

VI. Adjournment

Victoria adjourned meeting at 1:35pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Minutes approved by:

Fergus Falls Human Rights Commission
Meeting Minutes
12/17/19

• **Call to order** at 12:35pm.

Victoria, Becky, Abby, & Darci present. Staff Liaison, Clara Beck joined meeting. (Community Development Manager)

• **Review & approval of Agenda-** Abby motioned & Becky Seconded. Motion carried.

• **Approval of minutes from last meeting-** (9/10 & 10/8/19) Becky & Abby motioned & seconded. Motion passes for approval of both meeting's minutes.

• **Open issues**

- a) FFHRC 2019 Annual report DRAFT was completed by Victoria & brought to meeting for proofing & approval. Changes were made to document & Victoria will revise & send out for electronic signatures. Will be submitted to city council & mayor upon completion.
- b) Human Rights Day was 12/10/19- nothing to report on that.

• **New business**

- a) FFHRC members- Becky & Abby term goes until 12/31/20. Darci & Victoria reinstated until 12/31/21. New Member Sam Mandan will join as of 1/1/20.
- b) Creating the 2020 HRC Plan will be addressed at first meeting in 2020.
- c) Possible schedule changes to meeting days & times to be addressed at the first meeting in 2020.
- d) Andrew Bremseth brought an idea to the meeting for a Longest Table event on 9/15/20 in Fergus Falls. It would be part of a separate event being held for around 150 non local residents. Andrew is wondering if FFHRC would like to head up the Longest Table part of event. Discussion about pros & cons held after Andrew left. Idea is tabled until first meeting in 2020 so that all members can be present.
- e) OTC opted IN to accept refugees in this county on 12/13/19. MN opted in as a state as well. Discussion as to whether or not the City would have to opt in also. Clara will research.

• **Announcements**

SAVE THE DATE: Rural Equity Summit- Martin Luther King Day in FF at MState 1/20/20. 8am-7pm.

• **Future Meetings** January 14, 2020 12:30-1:30p

• **Adjournment at 1:28pm**

Minutes approved on:

Human Rights Commission

City of Fergus Falls MN

Introduction

The Human Rights Commission of the City of Fergus Falls works for the protection of human rights for all people and helps empower people to realize their rights through education, advocacy and community engagement. The FFHRC is committed to creating an inclusive community that values diversity and protects human rights for everyone. We do this by:

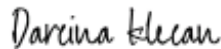
- Conducting educational programming and distributing information in order to help people understand human rights and eliminate discriminatory practices.
- Advising government, businesses, and private individuals on human rights issues, concerns and complaints from the community.
- Informing and advising the Fergus Falls City Council on human rights concerns and complaints.
- Assuming the responsibility to pass on human rights concerns to the Minnesota Department of Human Rights.

The 2019 FFHRC met in City Hall on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM except July and November.

2019 Activities

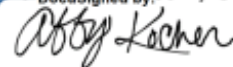
- Reviewed Minnesota State Human Rights Commission plan.
- Explored affordable housing in Fergus Falls.
- Solicited public feedback via the City's Facebook page to understand which human rights areas community members were concerned about to inform 2020 plan. Areas include: affordable housing, age discrimination, employment, LGBTQ, and employment issues.
- Recommended the City recognize October 11 as Indigenous Peoples' Day.
- Explored the idea of recommending the City declare December 10 Human Rights Day.
- Supported the 2020 Rural Racial Equity Summit

Submitted by 2019 Commissioners,



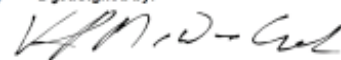
12/17/2019

Darcina Klecan, Secretary



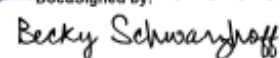
12/19/2019

Abby Kocher



1/7/2020

Victoria McWane-Creek, Chair



12/23/2019

Becky Schwarzhoff