

Human Relations Commission  
CMO Conference Room  
519 Washington  
Minutes  
January 24, 2019

Meeting called to order by Werksma at 6:14 pm.

Present: Louann Werksma, Christian Hudson, Barbara VanHorsen, Rhonda Kleyn, Alyson Brummitt and Reyna Masko.

Absent: Chloe Weigel, Dennis Swartout, Lindsay Hartman and Wes McGee.

Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved, motion by VanHorsen, seconded by Hudson, all in favor.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes approved, motion by VanHorsen, seconded by Brummitt, all in favor.

Welcome Guests: N/A

There was no business under the general call to the audience.

#### Old Business

- a. **Budget Request** – Werksma suggested that the request to the City Council for funds could be presented as “matching” funds to the donations the HRC will receive from the community rather than a simple donation. This shows the effort of the commission to raise funds. The group agreed this was a good approach. Masko mentioned the need for funds to create a strategic plan. Werksma replied that we can likely create a plan as part of the annual goals that doesn’t require spending money. Werksma also discussed the role of the Commission as an entity of the City, that the HRC does not operate as an individual organization and a more appropriate approach to a strategic plan is to work in conjunction with the City when a City strategic plan is being updated.
- b. Annual Report – Werksma reported she will send out the report within the next week for the group to review before she sends it to the City Manager.
- c. Goals – VanHorsen suggested building awareness of the HRC should continue to be goal, in particular that the HRC takes complaints/concerns from community members. Some action steps for doing were discussed, things such as creating a schedule for HRC members to attend City Council meetings, asking for an article in the GH Tribune and attending local meetings such as Rotary, etc. Masko thought the group should plan a brainstorming meeting to discuss a strategic plan; she is going to send out a Google survey to the group to find a date that works.
- d. LEDA Sponsorship – Kleyn reported the sponsorship was approved by City Council by a 3:2 vote. The conversation the Council had about the sponsorship that resulted in 2 members voting no is that if the Council approves this request it could become a budget strain if other Boards and Commissions start putting in the same type of requests. As well, they had questions about the

actual event to ensure they knew what they were sponsoring as the event they sponsored in 2018 created some controversy in the community.

#### New Business

- a. Budget - Kleyn reported the most recent spending and the balance of funds. Werksma is going to speak with Liv Communities and Scholtan and Fant staff to ask about their commitment to a 2019 sponsorship. The actual invoicing for the sponsorships won't take place until May 2019.
- b. Agency Updates – VanHorssen reported that the most recent Inspire event at the Momentum Center on racism was really well attended. The presenters were local community members and there was good conversation throughout the event. As a result of the event a book club has been created. The book club will meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month at 8:30 am at the Momentum Center. The next movie night at the Momentum Center is January 25 and they are showing The Hate You Give. The next Inspire event is February 9 and the topic is “celebrating all love”.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.

Next meeting is Thursday February 28, 2019