

**BOARD OF HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES**

Regular Meeting:

Thursday:

March 19, 2015:

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Human Relations Commissioners of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, was held in the City Commission Room at City Hall at 12:00 o'clock p.m., Thursday, March 19, 2015.

The Human Relations Commissioners present or absent were as follows:

Present: Tanya RedRoad, David Lanpher, Keith Bjornson, Laetitia Hellerud,
Waseem Altaf

Absent: Rachel Hoffman, Abdiwali Sharif-Abdinasir

Item 1. Welcome and Introductions

Acting Chair RedRoad welcomed Members to the meeting and introductions were made.

Item 2. Approve Order of Agenda

Mr. Altaf moved the Order of Agenda be approved as presented. Second by Mr. Bjornson. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

Item 3. Minutes: Regular Meeting of February 19, 2015

Mr. Altaf moved the minutes of the February 19, 2015 Human Relations Commission meeting be approved. Second by Mr. Bjornson. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

Item 4. Presentation: Martha Bartels, Project Manager at Greater Fargo/Moorhead Economic Development Corporation "National Welcoming Week"

Martha Bartels, Project Manager at Greater Fargo/Moorhead Economic Development Corporation, gave a presentation on the National Welcome Week celebration that will be held in Fargo September 12-20, 2015. Ms. Bartels shared a tentative schedule of the daily events being planned by groups of individuals from the Fargo, West Fargo, and Moorhead area. She shared the goal of this event is to strengthen social and economic integration throughout the nation, and to create a community support of any and all individuals in the FM area. Ms. Bartels stated she is formally requesting the Board's approval to include the City of Fargo as a sponsor of this event. She noted that she will also be presenting to the Boards in West Fargo and Moorhead and requesting their sponsorship as well.

(Laetitia Hellerud present)

Further discussion was held clarifying the Welcoming Committee is requesting the City of Fargo to be a sponsor and also to host the event, which requires formal approval from the Board.

The Board also reviewed previous discussion regarding the purchase of flags for this celebration, and ideas to generate additional funding from local entities to help with some of the costs involved. Cultural Liaison Officer Cristie Jacobsen shared that she will be speaking before the Rotary Clubs next week regarding this celebration, and requesting their financial support. Mr. Lanpher suggested also contacting area Real Estate Companies for their support.

Mr. Lanpher moved to approve the City of Fargo as a sponsor and host of this year's National Welcome Week celebration, September 12-20, 2015. Second by Ms. RedRoad. All Members present voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

Item 5. Public Comment (12:10)

No public comments were heard.

Item 6. Update "Everyone Matters Day"

Cultural Planner Willard Yellow Bird presented an update on the "Everyone Matters Day" celebration on Thursday, April 2, 2015. He shared copies of a proclamation signed by Mayor Mahoney, and a news release from the City of Fargo, inviting the community to attend events being held at the Main Library from 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. on April 2. These events include a news conference, a public reception, and the opportunity for individuals to trace and decorate an outline of their hand to add to the "Everyone Matters Tree" that will remain in the Library following the event. Mr. Yellow Bird also showed a video that was filmed for this celebration featuring area residents, and he encouraged the Board to post "I AM" selfies on Twitter and Facebook on behalf of the celebration.

Item 7. Funding Updates

No funding requests were submitted.

Item 8. Other Business and Announcements

Cristie Jacobsen noted that next month's Human Relations Commission meeting will be held at the Metro Area Mayors Committee for People with Disabilities Awards Banquet on April 16, 2015 at the Fargo Holiday Inn, beginning at 11:45 a.m. Ms. Jacobsen stated an RSVP is required, and to e-mail Mr. Yellow Bird if you will be attending so he can complete an application for the banquet.

Mr. Yellow Bird reminded the Board future meetings will be held at the Fargo Park District Depot once the construction for the new city hall begins. He stated he did not have a definite date on when this will change, but he will keep the Board posted. Mr. Yellow Bird also clarified the Executive Committee Meetings will still be held at the Library, and these only occur when there are funding requests.

Ms. Hellerud shared a reminder regarding the Lutheran Social Services New American Building Bridges 2015 – We Journey Together Conference on March 24 and 25, at the Fargo Holiday Inn.

The following announcements were made as follows:

- 1) The Human Relations Commission has been invited, on behalf of the Rape and Abuse Crisis Center, to participate in a stakeholder's focus group on Wednesday, March 25.
- 2) The FM Native American Center is hosting a Frybread Taco Fundraiser for the Women's WELL Group Project on Tuesday, March 24 at First United Methodist Church, 906 1st Avenue South.
- 3) The 26th Annual Woodlands & High Plains Powwow will be held on March 28 at the Memorial Auditorium at Concordia College from 12:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Item 9. Adjourn

The time at adjournment was 12:43 p.m.