



MEETING OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

1/27/2025 - Minutes

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Call to Order

The Human Relations Committee met on Monday, January 27, 2025, in the 4th Floor Mayor's Conference Room, 221 N 5th St.

Committee members present included Katie House, Sargianna Wutzke, Mirabela Punga, Joan Klein, Betsy Zarr and Chair Thea Jorgensen.

Member Gabrielle Abouassaly was absent.

2. Public Comment

No members of the public appeared for comment.

3. Introduction of New Members

All members present introduced themselves and provided a brief background.

4. Expectations/guidelines of Roles

Chair Jorgensen provided an overview of the HRC to the new members.

5. Election of Officers

Chair Jorgensen provided information on the chair and vice chair roles of the HRC.

Member Houle moved to hold the election of officers to the April 21, 2025, meeting and Member Wutzke seconded. Upon a roll call vote, all voted aye. M/C.

6. Consider Approval of Minutes

Member Wutzke moved to approve the minutes as presented and Member Houle seconded. Upon a roll call vote, all voted aye. M/C.

7. Community Conversations

The Committee discussed possible dates and times to host the next event. They decided that 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM is a good time to have the event. Chair Jorgensen will check with

the Bismarck Veterans Memorial Library to see if they have April 10th, 22nd or 24th available for the next event.

Chair Jorgensen will schedule the Community Conversations subcommittee meeting in the next two weeks. The subcommittee will be composed of at least three HRC Committee members and any volunteers that wish to participate.

8. Community Events

Chair Jorgensen will continue to compile a calendar of upcoming events that the committee could participate in or support.

9. Volunteer Recruiting

Olivia Hughes attended the meeting as an HRC Volunteer. The committee discussed how volunteers can sign up and how to encourage more people to volunteer and participate in the committee.

10. Humanitarian Award

The committee will discuss opening the nominations in March at their February meeting and discussed presenting the award in May 2025.

Member Houle moved to add a Youth Humanitarian Award for 2024, and Member Wutzke seconded. Upon a roll call vote, all voted aye. M/C.

11. Annual Report

The annual report will be presented at an April 2025 City Commission meeting.

12. Budget

Member Houle volunteered to work with City Administration to establish a budget for 2025.

13. Other Business

Member Wutzke provided an update on the These Are Your Neighbors podcast.

14. Goals for 2025

Chair Jorgensen asked members to bring back goals for the upcoming year to the February HRC meeting.

15. Adjourn

There beign no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:41 PM.