



MEETING OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

4/16/2025 - Minutes

AGENDA

The Human Relations Committee met at 4:00 PM on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, in the 4th Floor Mayor's Conference Room, 221 N 5th St.

Committee members present included Thea Jorgensen, Mirabela Punga, Betsy Zarr, and Chair Sargianna Wutzke. Members Gabby Abouassaly, Katie Houle, and Joan Klein attended the meeting via Teams.

1. Consider Approval of Minutes

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

2. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

3. Community Conversations

The next Community Conversations Forum (CCF) will take place on May 8, 2025, at 6:00 PM in the Tom Baker Meeting Room of the City/County Building. Member Houle provided an update from the CCF Subcommittee. The panelists will be Matthew Stone Airacou, Susan Dingle, Heather May, Sherrice Ronness, and Trevor Vannett. Dawn Kopp with the Bismarck Downtowners and Joan Klein will be co-moderators of the event. The moderators will ask the panelists various transportation questions with public comment from attendees being encouraged after the moderated panel.

4. Community Events

A. Families Around the World - April 28, 2025, 6:30 - 8:00 PM

HRC will have a booth with a rock painting activity at the Families Around the World event on April 28, 2025, from 6:30 - 8:00 PM.

B. Band Day Parade - May 9, 2025

After discussion, the consensus of the committee was to decline participating in the May 9, 2025 Band Day Parade.

C. 4th Annual Cultural Expo - May 17, 2025, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

HRC will have a booth at the 4th Annual Cultural Expo on May 17, 2025, from 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM at the North Dakota Heritage Center.

D. Capitol Pride - June 14, 2025

Committee members have committed to participating in Capitol Pride. Chair Wutzke will send out a sign-up poll for committee members. City Administration will submit the registration once it is made available on Dakota Outright's website. City Administration will send Member Zarr a list of HRC volunteers so that she can reach out to them about volunteering at any of the upcoming events.

E. Juneteenth

There was no information to report at this time.

F. Buddy Walk - September 27, 2025

Member Jorgensen provided an update on participating in the Buddy Walk on September 27, 2025.

Member Jorgensen moved to provide a \$250.00 sponsorship for the event and Member Zarr seconded. Upon a roll call vote, all voted aye. M/C.

5. Humanitarian Award

The Humanitarian Award nomination period has been extended to May 15, 2025. The Committee will review nominations at the May 21, 2025 HRC meeting.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:56 PM.