



MEETING OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

7/16/2025 - Minutes

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

The Human Relations Committee met at 4:00 PM on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, in the 4th Floor Mayor's Conference Room, 221 N 5th St. Committee members present included Katie Houle, Thea Jorgensen, Mirabela Punga, Betsy Zarr, and Chair Sargianna Wutzke. Member Joan Klein were absent.

2. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

3. Consider Approval of Minutes

Chair Wutzke noted a spelling error in the June 18, 2025, minutes. Member Jorgensen moved to approve the minutes with the recommended change and Member Houle seconded, upon a roll call vote. All vote aye. M/C.

4. Humanitarian Award Presentation

The HRC will present the three Humanitarian Awards at the July 22, 2025, Bismarck City Commission meeting.

5. Community Conversations

Chair Wutzke opened the discussion regarding the next Community Conversations Forum.

Topic: Homelessness

Location: Library

Date: November 6, 2025

Time: 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

The Community Conversations Subcommittee will meet prior to the August meeting to discuss the specifics of the event.

6. Community Events

A. Juneteenth - June 28, 2025 - 4:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Members Betsy and Houle attended the Juneteenth event and provided positive feedback about the booth.

B. Buddy Walk - September 27, 2025 - 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

C. Lions Club Meeting

Member Jorgensen will attend an upcoming Lions Club Meeting to talk about the HRC.

7. Subcommittee Discussion

The Volunteer Subcommittee will consist of members Zarr and Jorgensen. Member Zarr provided an update on reaching out to current volunteers and also inquired about how to spark interest for perspective volunteers.

8. Budget Discussion

The group discussed the current balance of the budget and possible ways to utilize the remaining funds.

9. Other Business

The group talked about terms that are expiring December 31, 2025. Member Jorgensen's position and an unfilled position will be expiring. Applications for expiring positions will be accepted through November 2025.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:55 PM.