



MEETING OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

9/17/2025 - Minutes

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

The Human Relations Committee met at 4:00 PM on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, in the 4th Floor Mayor's Conference Room, 221 N. 5th St. Committee members present included Katie Houle, Joan Klein, Mirabela Punga, Thea Jorgensen, and Chair Sargianna Wutzke.

2. Public Comment

No public comment was received.

3. Consider Approval of Minutes

No changes to minutes were received. Member Houle moved to approve the minutes as is and Member Klein seconded, upon a roll call vote. All vote aye. M/C.

4. Recap of Lions Club Meeting

Member Klein provided feedback on her and Member Jorgensen's presence at the September 8, 2025, Lions Club meeting. At the event, they discussed the HRC's mission and what they represent, the various projects they work on, how they are willing to partner and volunteer with local organizations and addressed how they work alongside the Bismarck City Commission.

5. Community Conversations

Chair Wutzke opened the discussion regarding the next Community Conversation Forum. The Community Conversations Subcommittee met prior and discussed partnering with the Missouri Valley Coalition for Homeless People for the event. Chair Wutzke and Member Houle met with Michelle Erickson from the Abused Adult Resource Center to talk about partnering for the Community Conversations event, and agreed a partnership was a good idea. HRC Committee confirmed one moderator and the panelists for the event and discussed potential date and location changes along with advertising for the event.

6. Community Events

A. Walk for Down Syndrome - September 27, 2025 8:30am - 12:30pm

Chair Wutzke discussed the volunteering schedule and HRC's presence at the event. Chair Wutzke and Member Klein will be volunteering on the days prior to the event for setup, and Members Punga, Houle and Jorgensen will be volunteering on the day of the event.

B. Open Your Heart Campaign

Member Jorgensen brought up the event put on by the American Legion and their work in the community with food drives and fundraising events. HRC discussed the possibility of partnering to adopt an event with American Legion. Member Jorgensen will provide further information to Chair Wutzke for the committee to vote on at a later date.

Chair Wutzke discussed other community events, including Member Klein's organization and her "Know My Culture" events she has monthly at the library. The discussion of MLK Day was brought up, but no further information was provided.

7. These Are Your Neighbors Podcast

Chair Wutzke mentioned Member Jorgensen's idea of a podcast episode discussing what they have learned from hosting the podcast and a behind the scenes look at what goes into making the podcast. HRC discussed their upcoming guests and potential guests for future episodes.

8. Other Business

No additional business discussed.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:38 PM.