



Human Relations Committee

MEETING
June 17, 2026

**4th Floor Mayor's
Conference Room**

**City/County Office Building
221 N 5th Street**

4:00 PM

HRC Mission

The purpose of the Bismarck Human Relations Committee is to create an atmosphere of inclusion, equality, and accessibility through education and outreach to recognize the value of a diverse community.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. [Public Comment](#)
3. Consider Approval of Minutes
4. Community Conversations
5. Humanitarian Award
6. HOBY Student Leadership Presentation
7. Community Events
 - A. NDAAACI Cultural Expo - Debrief
 - B. Capital City Pride - Debrief
 - C. Juneteenth - June 19, 5PM-9PM
8. Other Business

ADJOURN

The next regular meeting date is scheduled for July 15, 2026, at 4PM, in the Mayor's Conference Room on the 4th floor of the City/County Building at 221 North 5th Street.



MEETING OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

5/20/2026 - MINUTES

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

The Human Relations Committee met at 4:00 PM on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, in the 4th Floor Mayor's Conference Room, 221 N. 5th St. Committee members present included Chair Katie Houle, Vice Chair Joan Klein, Members Sargianna Wutzke, Betsy Zarr, Mirabela Punga, Thea Jorgensen, and Denise Fettig-Loftesnes.

2. [Public Comment](#)

No public comment was received.

3. Consider Approval of Minutes

Member Jorgensen motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Vice Chair Klein seconded. M/C

4. Humanitarian of the Year

Chair Houle went over the scoring for the nominations in each category for the Humanitarian Award. Vice Chair Klein motioned to award the organization category to the CHS Peer to Peer group, Member Fettig-Loftesnes seconded, all aye. M/C Member Jorgensen motioned to award the adult category to Megan Frankl-Mann, Member Zarr seconded, all aye. M/C Member Jorgensen motioned to award the youth category to Levi Engelstad, Member Zarr seconded, all aye. M/C

It was decided that the awards would be presented at the June 23rd, 2026 City Commission meeting. Member Wutzke will present the award to Megan Frankl-Mann, Member Jorgensen will present the award to CHS Peer to Peer, and Chair Houle will present the award to Levi Engelstad. Member Wutzke will send out email to nominees that were not chosen.

5. Community Conversations

There was no discussion on the Community Conversations forum.

6. Community Events

A. Families Around the World - Debrief

The committee discussed how the event went well and had a good turnout, and briefly discussed ideas for next year.

B. NDAAACI Cultural Expo - May 30, 2pm-4pm

Member Fettig-Loftesnes volunteered to be present for the entire event and Member Punga tentatively volunteered if needed.

C. Capitol City Pride - June 13, 10am-4pm

Chair Houle proposed a \$250 sponsorship. Member Jorgensen motioned to approve the sponsorship, Member Fettig-Loftesnes seconded, all aye. M/C

Chair Houle and Vice Chair Klein volunteered to set up and be present at the beginning part of the event. Member Fettig-Loftesnes and Member Wutzke volunteered to be present for the middle part of the event. Member Jorgensen and Member Punga volunteered for the last part of the event.

D. Juneteenth - June 19, 5pm-9pm

After receiving approval from City Administration, Chair Houle proposed a \$250 sponsorship. Member Jorgensen motioned to approve sponsorship, Vice Chair Klein seconded, all aye. M/C

Chair Houle volunteered for the first part of the event, Member Zarr volunteered for the middle part of the event, and Member Jorgensen volunteered for the last part of the event.

7. Other Business

Chair Houle presented three options for rack card designs that will replace the previous HRC brochures. The committee agreed on a design and Administration will work to get the design finalized and printed for upcoming events.

ADJOURN

The next regular meeting date is scheduled for Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at 4PM in the 4th Floor Mayor's Conference Room.

Meeting adjourned at 5:01 PM.