

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Monday, August 15, 2016

5:30 PM

McLeod Conference Room
1800 West Old Shakopee Road

AGENDA

I. PROCEDURAL MATTERS – 5:30 P.M.

- 1.1. Call to Order and Roll Call
- 1.2. Approval of Minutes - July 18, 2016
- 1.3. Adoption of Agenda
- 1.4. Oath of Office
- 1.5. Announcements

II. PROGRAM – 5:35 P.M.

Chief Jeff Potts, Bloomington Police Department
Doug Belton, Community Liaison, Joint Community Police Partnership (JCPP) Program

III. CONTINUING BUSINESS – 6:15 P.M.

- 3.1. 2016 Work Plan
- 3.2. By-laws Update
- 3.3. Complaints/Inquiry Report

IV. FINAL COMMENTS – 6:55 P.M.

Additional Handouts

V. ADJOURNMENT – 7:00 P.M.



Agenda Item

Originator
Human Rights Commission

Item
Approval of Minutes - July 18, 2016

Date
8/15/2016

Description

Requested Action

Approve minutes from the July 18, 2016 regular HRC meeting

Attachments:

Minutes from the July 18, 2016 regular HRC meeting

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Human Rights Commission

Monday, July 18, 2016

5:30 PM

McLeod Conference Room
1800 West Old Shakopee Road

I. PROCEEDURAL MATTERS – 5:30 P.M.

- 1.1 Call to Order and Roll Call** Present: Zavier Bicott, Maureen Carlson, Sheila Fishman, Daniela Kunkel, Jared Leese (arrive 5:33 p.m.), Savannah Salato, Ibrahim Yusuf (arrive 5:31 p.m.)
- Absent: Dennis Kane, Johnathon McClellan
- Staff: Lorinda Pearson, Manager and Staff Liaison, Human Services Division
Heather Lambert, Administrative Assistant, Human Services Division
Colleen Callahan, Program Coordinator (PT), Human Services Division
- Guests: Alejandra Pelinka, Director of Creative Placemaking & Engagement, City of Bloomington
- Second Vice-Chairperson S. Salato called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. A quorum was present.
- 1.2 Approval of Minutes - June 20, 2016** M/S. Fishman, S/Z. Bicott unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2016 meeting as amended.
- 1.3 Adoption of Agenda** M/Z. Bicott, S/M. Carlson unanimously carried to approve the agenda as amended with the following change: Under Final Comments, addition of discussion with the City of Bloomington Police Department about recent shooting events in which race relations can become the focus of the incident.
- 1.4 Announcements** L. Pearson stated there will be a 26th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act on July 26, 2016 at the Minnesota History Center. The event celebrates diversity in the community and is free and open to the public.
- L. Pearson stated at its July 14, 2016 meeting, the City Council appointed Kim Vlasisavljevich to the vacant At Large City Council position. She will be sworn in at the July 25, 2016 regular City Council meeting.
- J. Leese read and signed his Oath of Office for a term ending December 31, 2016. J. Leese resigned from the Human Rights Commission, effective June 22, 2016, as he applied for the City Council At Large Opening (per City Code Section 2.78). He was reappointed by the City Council to the Human Rights Commission on July 14, 2016.

II. PROGRAM – 5:35 P.M.

**Alejandra Pelinka,
Director of Creative
Placemaking &
Engagement, City of
Bloomington**

J. Leese welcomed Alejandra Pelinka, the first Director of Creative Placemaking & Engagement for the City of Bloomington. She stated she has been in her new role at the City for a little over a month. Prior to coming to Bloomington, she served as the Executive Director of the Northeast Minneapolis Arts Association (NEMAA), and has worked for the Ames Center in Burnsville as the Art Gallery Director and for Intermedia Arts in Minneapolis as a Volunteer Coordinator.

Ms. Pelinka will facilitate the work of a new Creative Placemaking

Commission and work with the City's nonprofit partner, Artistry, and a diverse group of stakeholders to implement and evaluate a Creative Placemaking Plan adopted by the City and Artistry in 2015. This Plan can be found on the City of Bloomington website, and she encouraged Commissioners to look it over.

She stated she will help the City identify the art, culture and design investments that will best support the evolution of a distinctive, walkable, urban neighborhood in the South Loop District and build its regional brand. She will also work to build community connectedness and engagement using a range of community outreach strategies.

Ms. Pelinka defined the South Loop District as the area on the East side of Bloomington surrounded by the Lindau Link, the 24th Avenue Corridor, the 34th & American Neighborhood and the Bluff Edge. Some key assets and opportunities in the area include: LRT & Bus, MSP Airport, Regional Freeway Access, the National Wildlife Refuge, Mall of America and Bloomington Central Station, as well as several undeveloped areas.

She stated the South Loop District is a unique neighborhood with estimates by 2020, it will experience 6,000 residents, 9,000 hotel guests, 35,000 employees and 115,000 Mall of America visitors daily. She pointed out the Mall of America is the largest attraction in the United States of America.

Ms. Pelinka further stated the vision for the South Loop District is to transform a dispersed, suburban commercial area into a walkable urban neighborhood that attracts residents, office tenants, hotel guests and shoppers by virtue of its unique character and assets.

One definition she provided for Creative Placemaking is "an emerging field that works to build vibrant, distinctive, and sustainable communities and economies through the arts".

Ms. Pelinka explained some Creative Placemaking demonstration project that have been completed, funded by the National Endowment for the Arts:

1. Mural (Cypress Semiconductor wall facing MN Wildlife Refuge lot) - Created by the same artist who did the mural at Civic Plaza
2. Convergence Sculpture
3. Little Box Sauna
4. Discovery Charattes
5. Walking Theater Production
6. Host/Artist Receptions

In addition, work has been done at Bloomington Central Station, (transit-oriented mixed use neighborhood), as well as at Central Park.

Projects that are in progress include:

1. Towne Place Suites (Sculptures on site, Art Gate project on Killebrew)
2. Utility Box Wraps (3 sets of boxes, each by different artists)
3. MOA Transit Station
4. Superbowl Project
5. Landform Project

Ms. Pelinka stated a Creative Placemaking Commission is being established for the City of Bloomington. The application deadline date is August 31. The Commission will consist of nine (9) members, with a diverse representation. Not all members need to be Bloomington residents.

She explained the six Strategic priorities, as determined by City leadership, which are: High Quality Service Delivery, Inclusion & Equity, Environmental

Sustainability, Community Amenities (Maintain/Expand), Community Image and Focused Renewal.

Initiatives to meet the Community Image priority include the #OneBloomington branding/marketing campaign and the use of art and placemaking throughout Bloomington that aligns with the new brand; Initiatives to meet the Focused Renewal priority include more affordable housing and successful neighborhood renewal innovation; an Initiative to meet the Inclusion & Equity priority is to have more diverse advisory boards, workforce and program participation; and an Initiative to meet the Community Amenities priority is to have a Community Center decision.

J. Leese stated the airplane viewing area is limited at the MSP airport, and he proposed bringing Creative Placemaking to airport viewing areas to encourage more visitors.

Z. Bicott inquired if Creative Placemaking is taking place in all of Bloomington. Ms. Pelinka clarified as of right now, her Creative Placemaking efforts are focused on the South Loop District. If these efforts go well, Creative Placemaking may be proposed throughout Bloomington.

M. Carlson asked if she has spoken to other Commissions and Organizations, such as taking a look at the Above the Falls Regional Park Master Plan in Minneapolis. Ms. Pelinka stated City staff and Artistry did research when coming up with the Creative Placemaking program, and looks to do more outreach in the near future.

S. Fishman proposed creating an indoor sculpture garden in Bloomington. Ms. Pelinka responded projects do not have to do only with sculptures, but may include interactive performances, community art activities, etc.

Ms. Pelinka asked Commissioners to share their ideas about Creative Placemaking and Engagement with her directly.

III. CONTINUING BUSINESS – 6:15 P.M.

3.1 2016 Work Plan

- Public Relations
 - Community Center Task Force

L. Pearson stated the Community Center Task Force determined there is no value in attempting to improve or expand the current Creekside building at their last meeting. As D. Kane is out of state, J. Leese will attend the next Task Force meeting on Tuesday, July 19, 2016. Task Force members will begin to look at proposed site locations for a new Community Center. The goal is to have Community Center recommendations presented to City Council in the fall.

- Representative(s) Forward 2014 Advisory Committee

L. Pearson called for a representative from the HRC, and an alternate, to serve on the Forward 2040 Advisory Committee, City of Bloomington Comprehensive Plan. She reminded Commissioners it would be a minimum 2 – 5 hour obligation per month, lasting October 2016 – December 2017. Z. Bicott volunteered to serve as the HRC representative. The Executive Committee will discuss a possible alternate at their next meeting.

- Equality
 - U.S. District Court – Open Doors Program

L. Pearson stated the role of the HRC for the U.S. District Court Open Doors Program is to hold an inaugural event as part of the Second Founding Community Program. This event will take place at Bloomington Civic Plaza and includes a viewing of the film, "Slavery By Another Name", a panel discussion, and some kind of contest with local Community Colleges. The U.S. District Court plans to use the event in Bloomington as a model to promote the Open Doors Program across the state.

- Cultural Competence
 - Heritage Days

L. Pearson stated four (4) multicultural acts have been booked for Heritage Days, taking place on September 17, 2016. A schedule for the acts is being created. In addition, the Bloomington Historical Society will be using the stage to hand out a few awards. Z. Bicott inquired about Commissioners being allowed to go out to solicit donations to help cover costs associated with events. L. Pearson stated an agenda item will be on the July 25, 2016 City Council agenda to allow Community Services Department volunteers and Human Rights Commissioners permission to solicit donations from Bloomington businesses and service organizations for programs, services and events. After City Council approval, staff will draft a specific script/letter for volunteers to use when seeking donations. L. Pearson reminded Commissioners donations must be specific to Work Plan activities.
 - International Day of Peace

L. Pearson stated plans are in place for the Naturalization Ceremony on September 14, 2016, as part of International Peace Day. Commissioners have signed up to volunteer and an individual has been designated to give the Pledge of Allegiance. She noted an individual is still needed to sing the National Anthem.
 - Native American Heritage Month

Z. Bicott reported a meeting for the Natve American Heritage Month committee is scheduled for August 2, 2016. The event will feature a speaker, an Exhibit, and perhaps a few “Coffee with the Curator” talks. L. Pearson stated the Native American Heritage Month Proclamation will be accepted at the October 24, 2016 City Council meeting, and she confirmed a contract for Dr. Don Bartlette to speak is being put together.
- Leadership
 - Omar Bonderud Award

J. Leese stated updated Omar Bonderud Award applications are at the Commissioner places on the table. S. Fishman confirmed this was the final form, and D. Kunkel stated additional space was given for answers. J. Leese stated the application deadline date is August 26, 2016, and he reminded Commissioners they are allowed to submit nominations. He encouraged Commissioners to share the application with anyone who may be interested. L. Pearson briefly went over the 2016 Omar Bonderud Award Timeline.
 - Team Building

L. Pearson stated with a full Commission, she is proceeding with scheduling a Consultant, Sue Stanek, to conduct a team building exercise for the HRC. A contract is being drafted, and the Executive Committee will look at dates in the fall to schedule this team building exercise.

3.2 By-laws Update

J. Leese stated he will bring the previously approved HRC Bylaws changes to City Council on July 25th for their approval. L. Pearson stated she has shared the recommended changes to the City Code approved by the HRC (at the May meeting) with the City Clerk and with Commission liaisons throughout the City. She stated other changes to City Code covering City Commissions may be taking place. Additionally, changes are being proposed to the Commission application, including spaces for an email address and cell phone number, and inserting questions such as “What does your background bring to the Commission?” and “Why do you want to serve on the Commission?”. City staff is looking to do a better job marketing Commission openings to underserved people in the community, as well as improving the onboarding/orientation process for new Commissioners.

3.3 Quarterly Inquiry/Complaint Report

L. Pearson announced the 2016 2nd Quarter Inquiry/Complaint report was included in Commissioner packets. There were two (2) inquires in April, two (2) inquiries in May and zero inquiries in June.

IV. FINAL COMMENTS

Z. Bicott stated in light of the recent shooting in St. Anthony, and other

Police shootings across the United States, he would like to see a discussion with the City of Bloomington's Police Department. He proposed working with the Joint Community Police Partnership (JCPP) Advisory Committee to hold a public event and to discuss training received by City of Bloomington Police Officers. L. Pearson recommended inviting Police Chief Jeff Potts and Doug Belton, Community Liaison, Joint Community Police Partnership (JCPP) to speak at the August HRC regular meeting, and Commissioners concurred. M. Carlson stated August would be a good month to invite these speakers, as National Night Out will just have occurred.

J. Leese commented the Bloomington Police Department participated in the "Running Man Challenge" on social media, and their video went viral.

M. Carlson noted there was an article about CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women) in the Summer 2016 edition of "World View" from the World Without Genocide organization. She inquired if the City of Bloomington may seek to pass CEDAW. L. Pearson stated the City studied the matter in the past, but did not move forward with it.

V. ADJOURNMENT

M/M. Carlson, S/S. Salato unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m.



Agenda Item

Originator Human Services	Item Adoption of Agenda
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Date
8/15/2016

Description

Requested Action

Attachments:

August 15, 2016 HRC Agenda



**BLOOMINGTON HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING – MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 2016**

BLOOMINGTON CIVIC PLAZA - 5:30 P.M.

1800 W. Old Shakopee Rd. – McLeod Meeting Room

Executive Committee Meeting – August 29, 2016

Civic Plaza – Baillif Conference Room – 4:00 P.M.

If for any reason you are unable to attend this meeting, or are going to be late, please contact
Heather Lambert, 952-563-4959, **by noon on Monday, August 15, 2016.**

I. PROCEDURAL MATTERS - 5:30 P.M.

- 1.1 Call to Order and Roll Call
- 1.2 Approval of Minutes – July 18, 2016
- 1.3 Adoption of Agenda
- 1.4 Oath of Office
- 1.5 Announcements
 - Japanese Lantern Lighting Festival, Sunday, August 21, 2016, 3:00 p.m. – dusk, Como Zoo Park, St. Paul
 - Diversity Day, Twins Game, Target Field, Tuesday, August 23, 2016, 7:10 p.m.

II. PROGRAM – 5:35 P.M.

Chief Jeff Potts, Bloomington Police Department

Doug Belton, Community Liaison, Joint Community Police Partnership (JCPP) Program

III. CONTINUING BUSINESS – 6:15 P.M.

- 3.1 2016 Work Plan
 - Public Relations
 - Community Center Task Force – J. Leese (Alternate)
 - Representative & Alternate - Forward 2040 Advisory Committee, City of Bloomington Comprehensive Plan – D. Kane
 - Equality
 - Business Day at City Hall, Friday, September 16, 2016, 8:00 – 11:00 a.m. – D. Kane
 - Cultural Competence
 - Heritage Days, September 17, 2016 (Booth Assignments)
 - International Peace Day
 - Approve Proclamation, September 12, 2016, City Council Meeting – Flora Tsyukayama accepting
 - Naturalization Ceremony, September 14, 2016 (Assignments)
 - Update: Native American Heritage Month, November 15, 2016 – J. Leese
 - Approve Proclamation, October 24, 2016 City Council meeting – Rayna Churchill of MN Indian Affairs Council accepting
 - Exhibit, November 1 – 9/November 15 – 30, 2016
 - Coffee with the Curator, November 2 at 10:00 a.m. and November 14 at 2:00 p.m.
 - Dr. Don Bartlette, Speaker, November 15, 2016
 - City Council Action – Solicitation of Donations – L. Pearson
 - Leadership
 - Date: Team Building – D. Kane
- 3.2 By-laws Update – J. Leese
 - City Council Action
- 3.3 Complaints/Inquiry Report – L. Pearson

IV. FINAL COMMENTS – 6:55 P.M.

V. ADJOURNMENT – 7:00 P.M.



Agenda Item

Originator Human Rights Commission	Item Oath of Office
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Date
8/15/2016

Description

Oath of Office for Commissioner Johnathon McClellan

Requested Action

Attachments:

Originator
Human Rights Commission

Item
Announcements

Date
8/15/2016

Description

- Japanese Lantern Lighting Festival, Sunday, August 21, 2016, 3:00 p.m. – dusk, Como Zoo Park, St. Paul
- Diversity Day, Twins Game, Target Field, Tuesday, August 23, 2016, 7:10 p.m.

Requested Action

Attachments:

Originator
Human Rights Commission

Item
Program

Date
8/15/2016

Description

Chief Jeff Potts, Bloomington Police Department
Doug Belton, Community Liaison, Joint Community Police Partnership (JCPP) Program

Requested Action

Attachments:

Originator
Human Rights Commission

Item
2016 Work Plan

Date
8/15/2016

Description

- Public Relations
 - Community Center Task Force – J. Leese (Alternate)
 - Representative & Alternate - Forward 2040 Advisory Committee, City of Bloomington Comprehensive Plan – D. Kane

- Equality
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 - Coffee with the Curator, November 2, 14, and 30, 2016
 - Dr. Don Bartlette, Speaker, November 15, 2016
 - City Council Action – Solicitation of Donations – L. Pearson

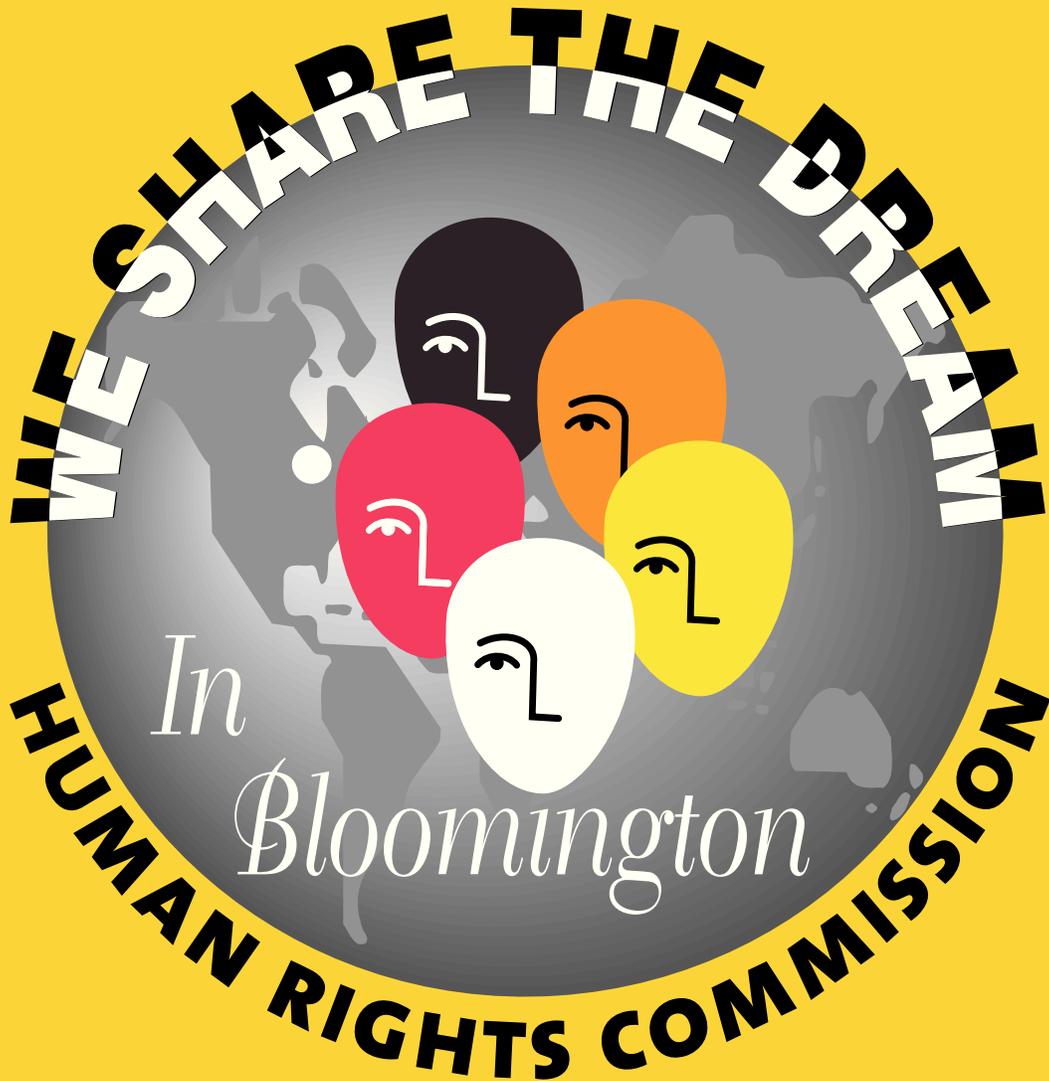
- Leadership
 - Date: Team Building – D. Kane

Requested Action

Attachments:

2016 HRC Work Plan
 Draft International Day of Peace Proclamation
 Draft Native American Heritage Month Proclamation
 Native American Heritage Month Committee Meeting Summary
 Draft Solicitation of Donations Letter

Human Rights Commission 2016 Work Plan



1800 West Old Shakopee Road
Bloomington, MN 55431-3027

Bloomington Human Rights Commission Work Plan 2016 – Executive Summary

Action Categories	Cultural Competence	Equality	Leadership	Public Relations
January		Proclamations: Rev. MLK, Jr. Day Proclamations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jan. 4 - City Council ○ Jan. 11 - School Board 		
February				
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 12 – Block Captain Workshop. HRC information booth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 8 – Selma: The Bridge to the Ballot Film Screening and Panel. Collaborative with Bloomington League of Women Voters. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 21 - Diversity Day – T-shirt contest selection • March 26 – Information Booth; Egg Hunt and Family Fun Walk & Booth
April				
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 3 – 23 Asian Pacific Legal Experience in America Exhibit • Proclamation for Asian Pacific Heritage Month 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 25 - PACER Unity Award 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 6 - Diversity Day • May 6 – Sponsor Wing Young Huie for Diversity Day at schools • May 6 - Peace Run • May 6 - Jefferson Div. booth • May 6 – Kennedy Div. booth • May – Middle school Diversity events, specifically Olson Middle
June				
July				
August				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August 2 – Participate in National Night Out
September	Proclamation: Sept 21 – International Day of Peace <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sept. 14, 2 pm, Host Naturalization Ceremony • Sponsor John Noltner on new book, “A Peace of My Mind America” • Sept. 17 – Heritage Days cultural entertainment and activities 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sept 17 – Information Booth – Heritage Days

October		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD – Hispanic Legal Rights Exhibit co-sponsor U.S. District Courts – District of MN 		
November	<p>Native American Heritage Month</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host Don Bartlette speaker Proclamation for Native American Heritage Month “Why Treaties Matter” Exhibit at Civic Plaza 			
December		<p>Dec 10 – International Human Rights Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dec. 5 - Proclamation to City Council Dec. 12 - Proclamation to School Board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dec. 5 - Omar Bonderud Award/Reception 	
Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioners attend educational workshops and conferences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD - Racial Equity Minnesota Network to facilitate discussions on racial equality in Bloomington 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD – HRC Team Building Activity with Sue Stanek, facilitator TBD – The Lewis Influence youth leadership workshop with Ron and Rodney Lewis – partner with Bloomington School District 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> District #271 Diversity Advisory Committee Jefferson/Kennedy HS Diversity Committee

Updated February 8, 2016

Bloomington Human Rights Commission

2016 Work Plan

Purpose

The purpose of the Bloomington Human Rights Commission (HRC) is to advise the Bloomington City Council in matters of human rights and equal opportunity for all citizens of the city.

Our 2016 Work Plan is organized by key issues identified in the report, *“Building Inclusive Communities, An Action Guide for City Leaders,”* published by the League of Minnesota Cities.

We’ve chosen (4) categories for action in 2016. Those categories are listed and described below:

- 1. Cultural Competence**
- 2. Equality**
- 3. Leadership**
- 4. Public Relations**

1. Cultural Competence

“Cultural competence is a willingness to learn and listen. It is being welcoming and dropping defenses. It is asking rather than assuming. It is a permanent way of changing how community issues are communicated and approached.”

- Provide opportunities for Human Rights Commissioners to attend educational workshops and conferences.
- Celebrate 2016 International Day of Peace, September 21, 2016.
 - a) Present Proclamation at City Council for 2016 International Day of Peace, September 21, 2016.
 - b) Sponsor one-day of International Day of Peace events focused on Bloomington.
 1. Host a naturalization ceremony for immigrants.
 2. Sponsor John Noltner, Keynote Speaker, focus on Peace of Mind, interviews from his second book, “A Peace of Mind America”, featuring people from around the United States exploring the meaning of peace, one story at a time and potentially a corresponding exhibit.
- Explore with community organizations, the faith community and citizens, planning and implementing multicultural dinners.
- Coordinate cultural activities and have a booth at the Bloomington Heritage Days (September 17, 2016). Activities may include cultural entertainment and interactive activities.
- Sponsor “Asian Pacific Legal Experience in America: Opportunity, Economic Racism and Hope” exhibit at Bloomington Civic Plaza with the US District Court – District of Minnesota. Exhibit is on the Asian Pacific legal experience in America discerned through three pivotal events: Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, Japanese Incarceration in WWII and Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 (May 2, 2016 – May 24, 2016). May sponsor community event/activities during exhibit and consider potential expansion of focusing on additional Asian cultures, such as Hmong.
 - a) Present a Proclamation for Asian Pacific Heritage Month in May.
- In November, recognize Native American Heritage month by exploring sponsoring a keynote speaker such as Don Bartlette, a Native American activist who speaks about his experiences growing up as a Chippewa Indian with a disability in an environment of poverty, violence, and homelessness. “Macaroni at Midnight” is an autobiographical profile of his life.
 - a) Present a Proclamation for Native American Heritage Month in November.

- b) Explore co-sponsoring “Why Treaties Matter” Exhibit at Bloomington Civic Plaza with the US District Court – District of Minnesota.
- Feature speakers and media resources on Human Rights issues including, however not limited to:
 - a) Speaker from Al Farooq, Muslim Community Center
 - b) Diann Kirby, Director, Community Services, (update) Resident Survey Results
 - c) City Manager, Jamie Verbrugge, Bloomington
 - d) Kathy Millington, Executive Director, World Citizen
 - e) Les Fujitake, Superintendent, Bloomington School District
 - f) Doug Belton, Joint Community Police Partnership and Multicultural Advisory Committee
 - g) A representative from the Minnesota State Department Human Rights to educate about the Human Rights Act 363A
 - h) Edward McDonald, Executive Director of Council on Black Minnesotans (COBM)
 - i) Hector Garcia, Executive Director of Chicano Latino Affairs Council (CLAC)
 - j) Sia Her, Executive Director on Asian Pacific Minnesotans (CAPM)
 - k) “Coexist”, a 40 minute documentary film on survivors of the 1994 Rwanda genocide
 - l) Jaylani Hussein, Executive Director of Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR)

2. Equality

“Improve cross-cultural understanding and acceptance.”

- Celebrate/recognize Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s birthday (January 18, 2016). Present Proclamation to City Council and School Board.
- For Black History Month, explore sponsoring the following events/activities, but not limited to:
 - ”Singing for Freedom: The Anti-Slavery Campaign of the Hutchinson Family Singers” who were a group of pro-emancipation traveling musicians.
 - “Selma: The Bridge to the Ballot” documentary: non-violent battle to win voting rights for African Americans in the South. Collaborate with the League of Women Voters to bring to the Community.

- Sponsor exhibit on Frederick Douglass during February Black History Month. The exhibit is four inter-locking panels that explores slavery and abolition.
- Research availability of speaker Michelle Alexander, Civil Rights lawyer, advocate and legal scholar for 2017. Her book is “The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness” (co-sponsor with the Minnesota League of Women Voters and others).
- Collaborate with the Racial Equity Minnesota Network and the Bloomington Public Health Division to conduct healthy, productive dialogues on the topic of racial equity in Bloomington. Conduct dialogue to compliment the City’s internal participation in a cohort of local and regional governments in Minnesota, Advancing Racial Equity: Putting Theory Into Action.
- Explore co-sponsoring “Hispanic Legal Rights Exhibit” at the Bloomington Civic Plaza with the US District Court – District of Minnesota.
- Celebrate International Human Rights Day (December 10, 2016). Present Proclamation to City Council and School Board.

3. Leadership

“Being a successful leader of a multicultural community also means recognizing and fostering leadership in others.”

- Solicit applications and present the Omar Bonderud award as appropriate.
- Implement a Team Building Activity for the HRC with Sue Stanek, facilitator. Activity will use the book “Strength Based Leadership: Great Leaders, Teams, and Why People Follow” by Tom Rath and Barry Conchie.
- Collaborate and support PACER through its National Bullying Prevention Center, to present “Unity” Awards to those who have made outstanding contributions to address and prevent bullying.
- Research co-sponsoring with the Bloomington School District a workshop focused on youth using “The Lewis Influence” facilitators. Ron and Rodney Lewis teach youth how to tap into their personal Greatness, Resilience, Intelligence, and Tenacity (G.R.I.T.).
- Explore using past HRC Commissioners to lead and support HRC Work Plan activities.

4. Public Relations

“Increased visibility will allow more citizens to access our services and increased communications will keep the Commission aware of events and trends in the community.”

- Participate in community events including, however not limited to:
 - a) Heritage Days
 - b) Creekside Community Center Open House
 - c) Egg Hunt and Family Fun Walk

- Diversity Day
 - a) Co-sponsor Diversity Day speaker in Bloomington Public Schools.
 - Wing Young Huie, professional photographer documenting people in a culturally diverse and changing urban landscape.
 - b) Participate in and support each High School's Diversity Day/Week activities and events. Include the participation of Bloomington Middle Schools, specifically Olson Middle School in May 2016.
 - c) Co-sponsor Diversity Day Peace Run with Jefferson and Kennedy High Schools on May 6, 2016.
 - d) Judge Diversity & Peace Day T-shirt Logo Contest and award prizes with a presentation at a City Council and a School Board meeting.
- Support the Joint Community Police Partnership (JCPP) in Bloomington.
- Participate in National Night Out on August 2, 2016, distributing information to heighten visibility of the HRC within Bloomington neighborhoods.
- Publicize the HRC in the following ways:
 - a) Bloomington Briefing
 - b) Sun Current newspaper
 - c) Government Access Channel
 - d) City of Bloomington Outdoor Message Signs
 - e) HRC booth at community events
 - f) City's Web page
 - g) Facebook/Twitter
 - h) Provide Information at the Bloomington Public Libraries
 - i) Continue to provide Commissioner representation/participation to the following organizations:
 - District 271 Diversity Advisory Council (DDAC);
 - Jefferson High School Diversity Committee/Kennedy High School Diversity Committee

Proclamation

The International Day of Peace September 21, 2016

- WHEREAS:** *the issue of peace embraces the deepest hopes of all peoples and remains humanity's guiding inspiration; and*
- WHEREAS:** *in 1981 the United Nations proclaimed the International Day of Peace be "devoted to commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and peoples"; and*
- WHEREAS:** *the United Nations expanded the observance of the International Day of Peace in 2001 to include the call for a Day of Global Ceasefire – personal or political, and invited all nations and people to make peace in one's own relationships as well as impact the larger conflicts of our time for the duration of the Day; and*
- WHEREAS:** *there is growing support within our city for the observance of the International Day of Peace, which affirms a vision of our world at peace, and fosters cooperation between individuals, organizations and nations; and*
- WHEREAS:** *global crises impel all citizens to work toward converting humanity's noblest aspirations for world peace into a practical reality for future generations,*
- THEREFORE:** *Be it resolved that I, Gene Winstead, Mayor of the City of Bloomington, do hereby declare September 21st as:*

THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

in Bloomington and urge all citizens of Bloomington to join together to support this effort;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED *that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Bloomington urge all government departments and agencies, organizations, schools, places of worship and individuals in our city to commemorate, the International Day of Peace and we challenge others with a call to action to join us in establishing a global day of peace in our homes, our communities and between nations. In Bloomington, this will include a Naturalization Ceremony hosted by the Bloomington Human Rights Commission for two hundred individuals on September 14th at Bloomington Civic Plaza.*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED *that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Bloomington pledge to support the activities of the Bloomington Human Rights Commission during the coming year.*

Dated this 12th day of September 2016.

*Gene Winstead, Mayor
City of Bloomington, MN*

Proclamation

Native American Heritage Month

- WHEREAS,** *American Indians have a long and rich history and presence in Bloomington including the Dakota, Ojibwe, and Iowa Indians; and*
- WHEREAS,** *the City of Bloomington is built on lands once known by the American Indians as, “Where the Water Touches the Bluffs” and where sacred burial mounds of “The ones who came before us” remain; and*
- WHEREAS,** *during the month of November, we commemorate the rich and diverse culture of American Indian people and recognize the eleven (11) tribal Nations that call Minnesota home; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The U.S. Census, 2010 American Community Survey reports that .4 percent of the Bloomington Minnesota population identifies as Native American and Alaska Native; and*
- THEREFORE,** *be it resolved that I, Gene Winstead, Mayor of the City of Bloomington, Minnesota, do hereby declare November as Native American Heritage Month*
- and ask all residents to continue their efforts in making Bloomington a model*
- for fair and equal rights for ALL persons.*

Dated this 24th day of October, 2016.

*Gene Winstead, Mayor
City of Bloomington, MN*



Committee Agenda Summary

Committee:	Native American Heritage Month Planning Committee
Commissioners Present:	Z. Bicott and J. Leese
Commissioners Absent:	M. Carlson, S. Fishman, J. McClellen, S. Salato
Partners Present:	Melanie Franks, and Jim Jones, Interim Executive Director of the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council
Staff:	Jay Ludwig, Cultural Arts Coordinator, Bloomington Park and Recreation Colleen Callahan, Staff, Human Rights Commission
Date of Meeting:	August 2, 2016 @ 7:30 a.m. in the Chadwick Conference Room, Civic Plaza

Meeting Agenda

1.	<p>Components for Program - Native American Heritage Month Event – What we know</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proclamation to the City Council October 24th with Jim Jones, interim ED of the MN Indian Affairs Council present and HRC member Z. Bicott. • “Why Treaties Matter Exhibit” to be on display November 2-9 & 15-30 in lobby of Civic Plaza. • August 2nd interview with Laurie Schulte, Communications for City Cable Programming “Bloomington Today” promotional piece to run prior event. • “Coffee with the Curator” Jim Jones, Interim ED of the MN Indian Affairs Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ November 2 @ 10 a.m. and November 14th @ 2p.m. • November 15th Program Suggested Outline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 6-7 p.m. Reception and Exhibit with Curators and catering from Gatherings Café located in the Minneapolis American Indian Center. ○ 7- 7:05 p.m. Introduction and welcome, Mayor Winstead, and HRC Chair D. Kane ○ 7:05-7:20 American Indian history in Bloomington by Jim Jones, Interim Executive Director, MN Indian Affairs Council. ○ 7:20-7:40 p.m. American Indian performance – contacting Leech Lake Dancers ○ 7:40-8:30 p.m. Keynote – Dr. Don Bartlette, to conduct a 45 minute keynote with a 15 minute Q&A on his journey as a Chippewa Indian child growing up with severe disabilities in an unhealthy environment yet persevering in a multicultural world and speak on Native American Heritage.
2.	<p>Review Draft Sponsor Letter – No changes or suggestions. As soon as it becomes available please forward electronically if possible to Z Bicott.</p>
3.	<p>Entertainment Discussion / Preferences Working on contacting the Leech Lake Dancers to perform one of their many traditional dances Grass, Traditional, Jingle Dress, or Fancy Shell with drums andn song. The cost is \$1000 for the group plus hotel rooms. Suggested total for sponsorship is \$1,500. C. Callahan to find out availability.</p>
4.	<p>Potential Partners (Who, where and what \$) Jim Jones suggested 3 businesses that had connections to the Native American Indians. They have taken precautions during development to preserve Native American lands. Z Bicott will follow the format and structure laid out in the letter and approach the following</p>

	<p>businesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bloomington Chamber of Commerce • Ceridian • McGuff Construction, and • Health Partners. • The target total for sponsorship is \$2,000 to cover entertainment, and any increased marketing expenses – direct mail, ads, or additional print materials and additional catering costs. Checks to be made out to the “City of Bloomington”.
5.	<p>Marketing Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article in Sun Current – Jay Ludwig has a connection with a local writer. • Emphasise social media outlets and interconnect: Bloomington and MN Indian Affairs Council. • City of Bloomington Facebook boost to target Bloomington residents. • Direct mail to past participants of HRC events. Direct mail to all residents thru Briefing.
6.	<p>Establish a Spokesperson for HRC Meeting – J. Leese</p>

Meeting Summary – Other

- Is it possible to have two maps of Bloomington (Then and Now) that illustrates the changes over time and location of important Native American lands?
- Jim Jones agreed to provide the history of Bloomington and will find out from the Historic Society if there is a Bloomington Youth that was a National History Day Finalist that focused on Native American History.
- M. Franks and C Callahan to contact representatives at both Middle Schools and High Schools to see if there is a connection with social studies curriculum. To develop a partnership and possible participation in “Coffee with the Curator”.

Next Steps

- Confirm Leech Lake Dancers are available.
- Committee to secure funding for entertainment, hotel accommodations, marketing, and catering.
- Develop marketing materials.
- Jim Jones, Interim Director of MN Indian Affairs to prepare an outline for introduction about local Native American History in Bloomington for community event.

Designated Presenter: J. Leese



July 27, 2016

Business Partners in Bloomington:

City of Bloomington Human Rights Commissioners are seeking donations to support the Human Rights Commission (HRC) work plan as approved by the Bloomington City Council.

Donations are being sought to celebrate Native American Heritage Month in November 2016. The activities planned are designed to recognize Native American history in Bloomington and explore the exhibit "*Why Treaties Matter*". The exhibit shows how binding agreements between Indigenous people and the U.S. Government still matter today.

Donations will go directly toward programming for a community event on Tuesday, November 15, 2016 at 6 p.m. To recognize your business for its support, the event program will include a listing thanking all contributors.

Should you have any questions about the program or the request by the volunteer, please do not hesitate to give me a call at 952-563-8733. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dennis Kane, Chairperson
Bloomington Human Rights Commission

CC: Lorinda Pearson, Staff Liaison

tls/DK

The Bloomington Human Rights Commission aids and advises the City Council in ensuring that all citizens have equal opportunity in employment, housing, public accommodations, public services and education and in other affairs that affect the social well-being of the community.



Agenda Item

Originator Human Rights Commission	Item By-laws Update
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Date
8/15/2016

Description

Requested Action

Attachments:



Agenda Item

Originator Human Rights Commission	Item Complaints/Inquiry Report
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Date
8/15/2016

Description

Requested Action

Attachments:



Agenda Item

Originator Human Rights Commission	Item Additional Handouts
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Date
8/15/2016

Description

Requested Action

Attachments:

Approved minutes from June 20, 2016
August HRC Commission Updates

APPROVED MINUTES

Human Rights Commission

Monday, June 20, 2016

5:30 PM

McLeod Conference Room
1800 West Old Shakopee Road

I. PROCEDURAL MATTERS – 5:30 P.M.

- 1.1 Call to Order and Roll Call** Present: Zavier Bicott, Maureen Carlson, Sheila Fishman, Dennis Kane, Jared Leese, Johnathon McClellan Savannah Salato, Ibrahim Yusuf
- Absent: Daniela Kunkel
- Staff: Lorinda Pearson, Manager and Staff Liaison, Human Services Division
Heather Lambert, Administrative Assistant, Human Services Division
- Guests: Julie Farnham, Senior Planner, Community Development Department
- Chair D. Kane called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. A quorum was present.
- 1.2 Approval of Minutes - May 16, 2016** M/Z. Bicott , S/J. Leese unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the May16, 2016 meeting as presented.
- 1.3 Adoption of Agenda** M/J. Leese , S/J. McClellan unanimously carried to approve the agenda as amended with the following changes: Add the 2016 Overcoming Racism Conference under Announcements; Add the Hispanic Legal Experience Exhibit under Equality; Add sign-up sheet for volunteers under Native American Heritage Month; and add Budget Discussion under Final Comments.
- 1.4 Announcements** D. Kane stated the Executive Committee has changed their meeting day and time for the remainder of the year. Updated 2016 meeting schedules were shared with Commissioners.

D. Kane stated feedback from the Asian Pacific Legal Experience Exhibit was included in Commissioner packets. He stated the comments shared may be useful for future planning.

D. Kane stated the 2016 Overcoming Racism Conference is taking place October 28 – 29, 2016 at Metropolitan State University. Each day will include a full slate of workshops. A flyer about the conference was sent to Commissioners via email.

II. PROGRAM – 5:35 P.M.

Julie Farnham, Senior Planner

Topic: Comprehensive Plan – Forward 2040, Taking Shape Together

Senior Planner Julie Farnham, Community Development Department, stated over the next two years, the City of Bloomington will prepare an update to its Comprehensive Plan, “Forward 2040 – Taking Shape Together”. The Planning Commission has official review responsibilities and the City Council maintains decision-making authority on the Plan, input from a community-based Advisory Committee is being sought.

J. Farnham stated the 2018 Comprehensive Plan update is required by State Statutes to ensure it is consistent with the Metropolitan Council’s system policy plans and regional development guide (Thrive MSP 2040). This is an opportunity for Bloomington to look at its goals, challenges and opportunities and prioritize them.

J. Farnham shared data that has been collected over time, showing that Bloomington has experienced limited population growth over the years but has seen the following changes: more housing units yet smaller household sizes, increased diversity of its residents, and strong employment growth.

J. Farham stated the timeline for Forward 2040 consists of the following:
 2016 – Public outreach, visioning, and existing conditions data;
 2017 – Goals, policies, strategies, and compile draft plan;
 2018 – Public review of draft plan, and Submission to Metropolitan Council before the end of December 2018.

J. Farnham stated a series of Town Hall Meetings will take place, and encouraged Commissioners to participate: June 22, 2016 (Sustainability), July 13 (Community Diversity and Engagement), and July 20 (Community Amenities).

J. Farnham explained an Advisory Committee is to be established this fall, consisting of 14 members (7 Officials, 7 General public). She asked the HRC to appoint a representative to serve on the Advisory Committee, and recommended also appointing an alternate. The representative will be committing to monthly meetings over 12 – 14 months, with the first meeting tentatively planned for October.

J. Farnham stated an online survey is on the City of Bloomington website and urged Commissioners to take it. She stated she wishes to give the HRC updates as progress is made on updating the Comprehensive Plan.

III. CONTINUING BUSINESS – 6:15 P.M.

3.1 2016 Work Plan

- Public Relations
 - Re-cap Diversity Day at Olson Middle School

M. Carlson stated she attended the Olson Middle School Diversity Day on Friday, May 20, 2016, and she was impressed with the event. This year is the first time a LGBT table was set up for Diversity Day. She stated many students completed Community Center surveys in order to receive a pen.
 - Community Center Task Force

D. Kane stated he continues to represent the HRC on the Community Center Task Force. He explained the first few meetings were used to create a process for evaluating the potential future of a new Community Center. Now that the process has been created, the Task Force is able to begin examining the issue of a new Community Center at their next few meetings.
 - National Night Out

D. Kane stated National Night Out is taking place on August 2, 2016. He stated Katie Swatosh, Crime Prevention Specialist with the Bloomington Police Department, has indicated the Police Department will be limiting the organizations/groups allowed to participate in National Night Out, focusing the event specifically on crime prevention. Therefore, rather than Commissioners attending neighborhood block parties promoting the HRC, mediation brochures will be included in Block Captain packets.
- Equality
 - U.S. District Court – Open Doors Program

D. Kane stated the Open Doors Program is a community outreach effort by the U.S. District Court. J. McClellan stated the committee is working on putting together a Program covering the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments, scheduled for February 20, 2017 in honor of Black History Month. D. Kane stated it is called the Second Founding Community Program, and will incorporate a viewing of the film, “Slavery By Another Name”. He also stated the U.S. District Court is launching these efforts in Bloomington, with the hope of getting the Program into the MnSCU (Minnesota State Colleges and Universities) system. L. Pearson stated these events will continue

through 2020.

- Re-cap Racial & Ethnic Disparities in Health Among Older Adults

D. Kane stated he attended the Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health Among Older Adults event on May 31, 2016 at Creekside Community Center. The presentation focused on data collected and identifying how it relates to disparities, based on race and ethnicity, in healthcare in older adults.
 - Hispanic Legal Rights Exhibit

L. Pearson stated exploring the possibility of co-sponsoring the “Hispanic Legal Rights Exhibit” at the Bloomington Civic Plaza with the U.S. District Court is an item listed in the 2016 HRC Work Plan under Equality. The Exhibit is not available in 2016, and staff is researching to see if it may be available in 2017.
- Cultural Competence
 - Heritage Days

Z. Bicott reported Heritage Days is taking place September 17, 2016, and the HRC is working jointly with many groups, such as the Bloomington Historical Society, Joint Community Police Partnership and Bloomington United for Youth, to provide multicultural entertainment. The planning committee selected their top six multicultural performance groups: Hung Vuong Association of MN, Somali Museum Dance Troupe, Circus Manduhai, Los Alegres Bailadores, Innocent Reggae Band, and Theater Mu. M/Z. Bicott, S/J. McClellan unanimously carried to approve the planning committee recommendations for up to six multicultural performance groups for Heritage Days.
- International Day of Peace

L. Pearson stated a Naturalization Ceremony is taking place on September 14, 2016, as part of International Peace Day activities. Volunteers are needed to give the Pledge of Allegiance and to sing the National Anthem. It would be preferable to have these roles filled by naturalized citizens. L. Pearson reported John Noltner, who presented his “A Peace of My Mind” project for International Peace Day last year, has written another book and is in the process of putting together an exhibit to match the book. However, he will not be in Minnesota for International Day of Peace this year. He is seeking to do more of a workshop format, and there may be a conversation to incorporate it in the future, perhaps involving the youth.
- Native American Heritage Month

J. Leese stated the Native American Heritage Day Month Event committee met on June 3, 2016 to plan an event taking place in November. A Proclamation to be accepted by the City Council is being drafted. The MN Native American Council has a free Exhibit that will be placed at Civic Plaza November 1 – November 29, 2016. A program is being put together for November 15, 2016, featuring the curators of the free Exhibit and Native American entertainment. Dr. Don Bartlette will be the keynote speaker. A Coffee with the Curator event may also be planned. The next Native American Heritage Day Month planning committee meeting is scheduled for July 14, 2016. J. Leese stated this is an example of how it takes 6 – 9 months of planning to have a really good event.
- Leadership
 - Re-cap PACER “Unity” Awards

D. Kane stated the PACER “Unity” Awards took place on May 25, 2016 at Bloomington Civic Plaza. The HRC received a thank you letter from PACER for their support and for providing a venue for the Event. The letter was included in Commissioner packets. In addition, the HRC received a plaque, which will be placed in the Baillif Conference Room at Bloomington Civic Plaza, next to the Omar Bonderud Award plaque. D. Kane reported it was a rich program with many attendees, involving people from across the country. M. Carlson pointed out PACER had a Youth Council to pick the Award winners.
- Omar Bonderud

S. Fishman stated the Omar Bonderud Award committee met on June 1,

Award

2016 to review and update the timeline and discuss the application. There were changes made to the language used on the application. M/S. Fishman, S/J. Leese unanimously carried to approve the Omar Bonderud Award timeline and the Omar Bonderud application with changes.

3.2 By-laws Update

L. Pearson reported the proposed changes to the HRC Bylaws will go to the City Council either June 27, 2016 or July 11, 2016 for approval. J. Leese will attend the City Council meeting. L. Pearson stated the approval of the HRC Bylaws may not be a timed item. She reminded Commissioners the recommendations to change City Code will follow a different, independent process. L. Pearson explained the proposed changes to the City Code will first be shared with all the Commission Liaisons in the City, followed by the proposed changes potentially being placed on a City Council Study Meeting Agenda. If there is interest in the proposed changes, a Public Hearing would be required, and the proposed changes would go to City Council for approval.

IV. FINAL COMMENTS

Z. Bicott inquired if Commissioners may view the HRC budget, with L. Pearson responding affirmatively. J. Leese asked about the role Commissioners should play in terms of budgeting, and to what degree the HRC should be involved in the budgeting process. L. Pearson stated the budget is approved annually, and it is based on the HRC Work Plan. She further stated the HRC is accountable for coming up with the Work Plan, while Human Services staff is responsible for coming up with a budget to support the items listed in the Work Plan. If a program cannot be supported by the budget, partners and co-sponsors need to be found. D. Kane stated Bloomington is in the top tier of Human Rights Commissions for available resources.

Z. Bicott asked if a monthly HRC complaint report was prepared, per the proposed HRC Bylaws. L. Pearson stated a monthly HRC complaint report will be prepared after the City Council approves the proposed changes to the HRC Bylaws.

V. ADJOURNMENT

M/S. Fishman, S/Z. Bicott unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Bloomington Commission Update

Human Rights Commission



August 2016

Bloomington Commission Update

**Human Rights
We can help!**

- If you feel you have been discriminated against in Bloomington, call the Bloomington Human Rights Commission at 952-563-8733 (TTY: 952-563-8740).

Bloomington Commission Update

Human Rights Mediation Brochure

- The Commission has a brochure on mediation services available to individuals who feel they may have been discriminated against in Bloomington.
- The brochure is available in English and Spanish. For a copy of the brochure, call 952-563-8733 (TTY: 952-563-8740).

Bloomington Commission Update

Human Rights Business Day

- Come visit our booth at Business Day at City Hall on Friday, September 16th, 8:00 – 11:00 a.m., at the Bloomington Civic Plaza.

Bloomington Commission Update

Human Rights Speaker

- Chief Jeff Potts of the Bloomington Police Department and Doug Belton, Community Liaison to the Joint Community Police Partnership program will speak to the HRC at the August 15th meeting.

Bloomington Commission Update

Human Rights *E-Subscribe*

- Keep informed about HRC news and activities.
- *E-Subscribe* will automatically notify you when updates are posted to the City's website about topics that you choose are important to you.
- To sign up for *E-Subscribe*, visit the City's homepage at BloomingtonMN.gov.

Bloomington Commission Update

Human Rights Recorded City Message

- The after hours message on the City's answering machine has been recorded in Chinese, English, Russian, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

Bloomington Commission Update

Human Rights

May we speak to your group?

- May we speak to your Group? Commission members are available to make a presentation or discuss any concerns you may have. Call 952-563-8733 to schedule a Commissioner to speak or attend your group.

Bloomington Commission Update

Human Rights Commission Postcard

- The HRC postcard is now available in several languages (English, Chinese, Russian, Somali, Spanish and Vietnamese).

Bloomington Commission Update

Human Rights Get Involved!

- The nine member Human Rights Commission meets the third Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the McLeod Conference Room at the Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road.
- The public is encouraged to attend.

Bloomington Commission Update

Human Rights

Community Center Task Force

- A member of the HRC serves on the Community Center Task Force that began meeting April 4th. The Task Force will study the potential future of a new Community Center.

Bloomington Commission Update

Human Rights

Human Rights Award

- The Bloomington HRC is seeking nominations for the Omar Bonderud Human Rights Award. The Commission is searching for a Bloomington business/organization or individual who has made a significant contribution to promote the human rights of Bloomington Citizens.
- To receive an application, call 952-563-8733 (TTY: 952-563-8740). Deadline for applications is August 26, 2016.

Bloomington Commission Update

Human Rights

Cultural Event – Japanese Lantern Lighting Festival

- The Japanese Lantern Lighting Festival will take place on Sunday, August 21st, 3:00 p.m. to dusk, at the Como Park Zoo in St. Paul.

Bloomington Commission Update

Human Rights Celebrate Diversity

- Diversity Day will be celebrated at the Twins game, Target Field, Tuesday, August 23rd at 7:10 p.m. Play Ball!

Bloomington Commission Update

Human Rights 2040 Comprehensive Plan

- Zavier Bicott, Commissioner, will serve as a Representative on the City's 2040 Comprehensive Plan's Advisory Committee.

Bloomington Commission Update

Human Rights

International Day of Peace

- In recognition of International Day of Peace, September 21st, the Bloomington Human Rights Commission will accept a Proclamation at the September 12th Bloomington City Council meeting. Flora Tsyukayama, former Human Rights Commissioner and local Peace Advocate, will accept the Proclamation.

Bloomington Commission Update

Human Rights Naturalization Ceremony

- To celebrate the International Day of Peace, the Bloomington Human Rights Commission is hosting a Naturalization Ceremony Monday, September 14th at Bloomington Civic Plaza at noon. The US District Courts, District of Minnesota, will perform the ceremony to naturalize citizens from the southern Hennepin County area.

Bloomington Commission Update

Human Rights Heritage Days

- Stop by the Human Rights Commission booth during Heritage Days, Saturday, September 17th at Nativity of St. Mary's Church site, 9900 Lyndale Avenue South, Bloomington. Also enjoy live multicultural entertainment sponsored by the Bloomington Human Rights Commission.