

1 **Human Rights, Inclusion and Engagement Commission**
2 **Meeting Minutes**
3 **July 20, 2022**
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6 **Commissioners Present:** Keith Allen, Amanda Becker, Richard James, Kathryn Macomber,
7 Laura Palmquist and Adepeju Solarin (Peju)
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9 **Youth Commissioners:** None

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11 **Commissioners Absent:** Etienne Djevi, Paul Haas, David Sindiga, and Youth
12 Commissioner Beverly Yiling Xie (excused)
13

14 **Staff Present:** Thomas Brooks, Equity and Inclusion Manager
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17 **Call to Order/Roll Call**
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19 The Human Rights, Inclusion, and Engagement Commission (HRIEC) meeting was called to
20 order at 6:30 p.m.
21

22 **Approve Agenda**
23

24 This item was postponed to later in the meeting due to not having a quorum.
25

26 **Commission Response to Community Issues**

27 Equity and Inclusion Manager Brooks explained he received an email related to Juneteenth and
28 the Festival of Change event that is coming up. A community member is concerned about the
29 HRIEC and City highlighting and promoting BIPOC and Black businesses for these cultural
30 events. He indicated he did respond and because he did receive multiple requests that were
31 similar in nature from a few community members, he is working on a potential article to go in
32 the newsletter and something he wants to continue to do in order to start to focus on educating
33 the community piece. He explained he did respond with a little background on why the HRIEC
34 and City promote black and BIPOC businesses.
35

36 Vice-Chair James thought that the regular reminder about why this is done is good because it is
37 easy to forget why it is being done this way.
38

39 **Public Comment on Items Not on Agenda**
40

41 **Approve Minutes**

42 This item was postponed to later in the meeting due to not having a quorum.
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44 **Youth Commissioner Report**
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46 **New Business**

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a. Wild Rice Festival Discussion with Debbie Cash from Parks and Recreation

Chair Palmquist indicated Ms. Debbie Cash will not be able to join the meeting so will be postponed.

b. Discussion with Corey Yunke, Community Relations Manager

Mr. Corey Yunke, Community Relations Manager updated the Commission on City communications.

Commissioner Adepeju Solarin arrived at 6:42 p.m.

Commissioner James thought that Mr. Yunke’s presence might be a valuable thing as this group starts attacking the projects. He indicated the history going back, this Commission tried to do all proclamations at the same time and dividing it up into really small groups to a couple people and found that has been less effective than the Commission hoped it would be. Narrowing it down to what the Commissioners think are the most important to attack for this next year, it might be two or four, the Commission will aim to get four but if only two are done and they are really great that is terrific. The Commission sees this as an incremental program and doing as much as the Commission can do but do it well and then next year adding in different things. He indicated this is the first step.

Vice-Chair James indicated if Mr. Yunke could get volunteers from different cultural communities to be on standby if the Commission needs translation for meetings or events. He thought the idea of the Commission presenting a professional look with tents and other things is something the Commission has been thinking about as well. If the Commission is going to go out into the community the Commission wants everyone to know who the Commissioners are and that the community appreciates the Commission for trying to come forward in a professional way as well. He also thought Mr. Yunke needed to use some of the small stuff he mentioned in the update because it is actually big stuff and important and is more than what was being done before. This is big because it is an important step forward in the small process of communicating in the community.

Vice-Chair James explained with the proclamations he was sure Mr. Yunke is aware that the Commission has been working for years trying to get actions and activities instead of just the words in the proclamation and the Commission has not found the real, most efficient way of doing this for the Commission and he was looking forward to working with Mr. Yunke and the sub-group and bringing the information back to the full Commission.

Mr. Yunke indicated from a volunteer side of this, having a roster or crowd sourcing of that, the City has some of that in place already. He noted that was a part of his background from emergency communications with the Police Department. He indicated the City is trying to work on things that they can guarantee such as working

92 on having interpreting companies and paying for it. The City does sometimes over
93 extend the use of volunteers for certain things of that. He explained his team has
94 talked to a couple of vendors for all of those reasons and working with the City
95 Council to help them understand there is a cost to this. There is money, significant
96 money behind it and if the City wants those services to sustain the City has to invest
97 and pay for those things. He thought the City is just starting to really get the HRIEC a
98 little bit more optic, being out there and a little more visible with this. He thought that
99 next step of seeing that is that official banner or something like that. He indicated the
100 small fix for this is when the City goes into the Rice/Larpenteur event the City will
101 pay for the slot that does have the name and title, at least on the bill so people know
102 where they are going. He thought the City is making progress.

103
104 Vice-Chair James indicated from his perspective the Commission was not looking for
105 a finished product but wants to see things move forward and making steps. He noted
106 the Commission appreciated the presentation and he was looking forward to working
107 with Mr. Yunke in the subgroup.

108
109 Commissioner Allen thanked Mr. Yunke for his work. He indicated while every year
110 is getting better it is also giving the Commission more options to choose what works
111 for them. He thought giving people something at events works well because it allows
112 people to come to the table to get the item and allows the Commission an opportunity
113 to talk to the people about who the HRIEC is.

114
115 Mr. Yunke agreed. He thought it was nice hearing these things because it validates
116 what is being done and helps to remind staff to do these things.

117
118 Commissioner Macomber congratulated Mr. Yunke on the recognition, award he was
119 given.

120
121 Mr. Yunke indicated he did not like tooting his own horn and there were many people
122 behind the person getting an award. He noted the award was the Minnesota
123 Association of Government Communicators. He indicated it is always nice to be
124 recognized, formally or informally and a validation of things. His team does work
125 hard and tries to do the best they can with the resources available to them.

126
127 Commissioner Peju appreciated everything that Mr. Yunke has been doing. She loved
128 the idea of acknowledging and thinking about some sort of enumeration to give to
129 people who volunteer their services out of the goodness of their hearts.

130
131 Mr. Yunke reviewed upcoming work his team will be working on.

132
133 Chair Palmquist thanked Mr. Yunke for taking the time to update the Commission on
134 work being done.

135

136 Commissioner Becker thanked Mr. Yunke for all his work and for the work on the
137 City newsletter. She really liked how it looks and the content. She suggested a little
138 area in the newsletter where the City could solicit content from the community such
139 as stories from the past regarding Roseville or tidbits.

140

141 **c. Work Plan Updates and Discussion**

142 Chair Palmquist indicated Commissioner Haas is the new lead in this subgroup but
143 Vice-Chair James could update the Commission on the work to date.

144

145 Vice-Chair James indicated he did not have much to report but he reviewed the
146 ongoing progress with the essay contest.

147

148 Commissioner Becker updated the Commission on the Rosefest Parade. She noted
149 APAC did not have as big of an impact as they hoped. She indicated the subgroup
150 will continue to work on building this event up and making it better each year.

151

152 Mr. Brooks indicated he was not aware that the Commission needed to reserve a spot
153 ahead of time for all of the Commissions until a day before the submission. He
154 thought next year the Commission should plan that ahead of time to make sure that
155 spot is available in the future.

156

157 Chair Palmquist reviewed what the proclamation subgroup has been working on. She
158 noted four proclamations were picked out for special work and indicated it was
159 helpful hearing from Mr. Yunke on the proclamations as well.

160

161 Vice Chair James indicated he would try to set up a subgroup meeting between this
162 meeting and the next Commission meeting and start going over things with Mr.
163 Yunke and the subgroup on plans the Commission wants to do for them. He read
164 through a list of things he thought the subgroup would be tackling and working on.

165

166 Chair Palmquist reviewed Youth Engagement and Outreach work being done. She
167 noted she has been in contact with the school.

168

169 Commissioner Becker updated the Commission on community outreach being done
170 in the City.

171

172 Commissioner Allen explained there was some communication that went pretty deep
173 with getting ready for Rosefest with the group that was participating. He thought
174 there was overlap there that he thought they were probably not giving accountability
175 to for community outreach because they have met with a couple of different people
176 and Commissioner Becker kept that going with communication and outreach. He
177 wanted to highlight that.

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179 Mr. Brooks indicated the City will be participating in National Night Out and there is
180 the Rice/Larpenteur event coming up as well as the Festival of Change event.

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Approve Agenda

Remove 7a (Wild Rice Festival Discussion with Debbie Cash from Parks and Recreation) from the agenda.

Commissioner James moved and Commissioner Macomber seconded a motion to approve the Agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Minutes

a. June 15, 2022 Human Rights, Inclusion and Engagement Commission

Changes were sent to Mr. Brooks by the Commission.

Commissioner James moved and Commissioner Allen seconded a motion to approve the June 15, 2022 Human Rights, Inclusion and Engagement Commission meeting minutes as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Other New Business or Reports

a. Staff Updates Report

Equity and Inclusion Manager Brooks reported on the following:

- Community Visioning Consultant, ZAN Associates
- Just Deeds
- IAP2 training updated
- Commission Recruitment
- Rice Larpeur Block Party, Saturday 8/13/22 11a-3p
 - Renter Engagement on proposed Tenant Notification Ordinance
- Festival for Change event hosted at Roseville Lutheran Church on 9/9-9/10/22
 - Planning Committee consists of Roseville Area Schools, City of Roseville, New Life Church, Do Good Roseville, and Memorialize the Movement
- National Night Out on 8/2/22
- SREAP Updates
- Envisio, program demo

Announcements

Commissioner Allen congratulated Mr. Brooks on being with the City for a year.

Mr. Brooks congratulated Commissioner Allen on his recent award.

Commissioner Peju thanked Commissioners Macomber, Palmquist and Djevi for stepping in for her due to her families COVID illness.

226 **Future Agenda Items**

227 **a.** MAC Campaign update

228

229 **Adjournment**

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231 Commissioner Allen moved and Commissioner Peju seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion
232 carried unanimously.

233

234 Chair Palmquist adjourned the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

235

236 Respectfully submitted,

237

238 Sue Osbeck

239 *TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*