

City of Grand Haven Human Relations Commission

Thursday March 28, 2024, called to order at 5:36 p.m.

City Hall [519 Washington Grand Haven, MI 49417]

The Highlights:

The regular meeting of the Grand Haven Human Relations Commission was called to order by Keith Colson at 5:36 p.m. in the council chamber of Grand Haven City Hall [519 Washington Ave. Grand Haven, MI 49417]

Commission Members present: Greta Fuller, Sydney Kroll, Amber Mendiola-Suarez, Anne Baker, and Keith Colson.

Commission Members absent: Jessica Cole Robinson, Emmet Brown, Wes McGee, and Andrew Villanueva.

Community Members present: The Honorable Bob Monetza, City Mayor.

Others Present: Barbara Lee VaHorssen (Momentum Center) and Justin Canan (Grand Haven Public Safety)

1. Upon the presentation of the Agenda, Comm. Kroll motioned to approve said agenda with Comm. Fuller seconding the motion.
2. Upon the presentation of the February meeting Minutes, Comm. Kroll motioned to approve said February meeting minutes with Comm. Fuller seconding the motion.
3. A welcome call to the audience is made by Comm. Colson.
4. Liaison Report:
 - a. Comm. Colson provided the commission with the following updates: From Holland HRC: Fairing Housing Learning Event on 4/11/2024 and Crisis Response Training Video available on HRC website. Holland DEIA Micro Aggression Training offered early April as well as a Know your Community Series.
 - b. Barbara Lee VanHorssen stated the Momentum Center will host the movie “The Great Disconnect” on 4/12/2024 and “Screenagers Under the Influence” on 5/10/2024 which included dinner. An “Emerging Drug Trends” Town Hall will be held on 5/14/2024. CMH board members are not advocating for mental health mileage. Losing mental health mileage support means losing potential valuable funding for the Momentum Center. Community conversation, support, and advocacy is needed.
5. Justin Canan
 - a. Discussed his role with the Grand Haven Public Safety as well as the various cases he would oversee in said role.
 - b. Discussed what indicators of abuse an officer looks for during a traffic stop.
 - c. Discussed what we, as individuals, can do to be vigilant if we have suspicion of a sexual crime ie: sexual abuse, sex trafficking, sexual exploitation.

- d. Discussed community resources that assist in said crimes such as 911, local CPS, local APS, local Law enforcement, and Kent County Trafficking Division.
- e. Discussed community resources for victims of sexual crimes such as the Holland Child Advocacy Center and the Child Anti exploitation Partnership Program in Ottawa County.

6. Old Business:

- a. GH Pride is looking for sponsors.
- b. Holland HRC
 - i. This commission meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month with the next meeting being 3/21/2024.
 - ii. The Grand Haven Commission talked about the possibility of holding a joint meeting with the Holland counterparts.
- c. A succession plan.
 - iii. With Comm. Baker stepping down as vice-chair to the Human Relations Commission, this leaves a vacancy in her position.
 - 1. Commission members are asked to consider if they want to step up into this position.
 - iv. Comm. Mendiola-Suarez has volunteered to take over the job of keeping meeting notes and getting out the meeting minutes.
 - v. Comm. Brown has agreed to step into the role of overseeing the Commission's social media presence, i.e. Facebook.

7. New Business:

- a. May is Mental Health Mental Health.
 - i. Social Media Posts with Community Resources (Comm. Brown).
- b. May is Asian American Heritage Month.
 - ii. Social Media Posts (Comm. Brown).
- c. June is Pride Month.
 - iii. Pride Month flyer displaying various flags to be given to downtown businesses to display in their windows

8. A second call is made to the audience by Comm. Colson.

9. Comm. Knoll motions to adjourn the meeting with Comm. Fuller seconding the adjourn motion.

- a. Meeting Adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

10. The next Human Relations Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday April 25, 2024 at 5:30p.m.