

Human Relations Commission  
Minutes of June 23, 2022 Regular Meeting  
Grand Haven City Hall 519 Washington Avenue, Grand Haven

1. Call to Order 6:05 p.m .....Werksma
2. Attendance (all current commissioners present) Absent: Liaison Latsch
3. Approval of Minutes of meeting May 26, 2022 Motion to approve Colson, Supported by Billedeau, all in favor.
4. Welcome Guests ..... Werksma
  - a. None Present. Mayor and City council were invited to attend to hear prepared presentations on the work of the commission. Meeting start time was pushed back to 6:00 p.m. to facilitate their attendance after the farewell reception for City Manager McGinnis. Only one council member, Ryan Cummins, notified us that he would be unable to attend.
6. General Call to the Audience..... Werksma
  - a. None Present
7. Liaison Reports (Tri-Cities Puentes Initiative/GH Hispanic Heritage Fiesta) Submitted in writing by Reyna Masko
  - a. After 4 years of asking City Council to allow us to enclose Central Park and close down 4th Street and Columbus (from 5th street to 4th) we were approved with a 5-0 vote at Monday's City Council meeting. WE ARE ECSTATIC! We will be hosting a concert at the Waterfront Stadium on Friday, September 16, 2022 from 5:00 - 9:00 pm. We will be hosting a fundraising dinner with Chef Oscar Moreno on Thursday, September 22 from 5:30-9:00 p.m. at the Community Center. Dinner and drinks will be included with the price of the ticket. More details to follow. The day-long fiesta will be held at Central Park on September 24, 2022 from 11:00 am - 10:30 pm. We will start at Harbor Drive and Washington with a parade of flags and march all the way down Washington to Central Park to set all the flags around the water fountain. The day will be filled with live bands, DJ, children's entertainment, food vendors, beer tent and cultural dances. We are so excited that guests will be able to walk around central park with their children and enjoy food and drinks without having to have the families separated so that one of the parents can enjoy an adult beverage in an enclosed tent. We are needing sponsorships. Last year we fundraised over \$61,000 and so far we are 1/3 of the way there. We are so excited about this new set up and hope we can get the funds needed to make this Fiesta even better than last year! Last year TCPI established 2 programs - We partnered with Ferris State University to bring their Latino centric leadership program to the Lakeshore and we are the parent organization of the Lakeshore Latinas (over 275 members) who provide opportunities to build future Latino leaders. Fiesta proceeds will go directly to support these programs. Each year we also partner with an organization that provides services to the Latin American community. The Fiesta donates half of proceeds (up to \$5,000) and this year we chose Latin Americans United for Progress as the organization to receive these funds. Please follow us on Facebook or Instagram - Tri Cities Puentes Initiative or visit or webpage [www.tcpuentes.org](http://www.tcpuentes.org).
8. Subcommittee Reports
  - a. Diversity & Inclusion Awareness .....Colson
    - i. The flag project was a good start this year, but we have learned a lot to improve it for next year.
  - b. Policies & Procedures .....Billedeau
    - i. Nothing new - they will send out the document to the group for review. Werksma noted that the mayor reached out and asked how HRC felt about having members from outside the city limits, Werksma noted that we do not want tiers of members and want everyone created equal.
  - c. Visionary Award ..... Baker

- i. Baker noted that there have been nominations, and she wishes to always leave it open for individuals to nominate all year round. Baker hopes to have the Visionary Award recipient be in the City Calendar/the Calendar that HRC is developing.
- d. Communications/Correspondence ..... Lyons
  - i. Facebook views: 2,132 people were reached and we had 8 posts.
  - ii. Humans of Grand Haven Calendar - we intend to have all content gathered and fully presentable for May 2023 to present to The City for the 2024 calendar. We will post starting in Jan 2023 of the 'Humans of Grand Haven'.
  - iii. In the Grand Haven Tribune the spotlight on Pride Month and the flags was very good.
- e. Anti-Racism Task Force ..... McGee
  - i. There was a meeting last Monday. They are having a Vote and Vax event at The Momentum Center on.
- f. Affordable Housing ..... Nail
  - i. The Department we worked with in the City of GH has been dissolved, and therefore we do not have a point of contact in the CoGH for this topic.
- g. HRC Booth at GHHHF ..... Rant
  - i. Avery would like to make the booth more interactive. She has gotten in touch with the Migrant Resource Teacher and would like to do a school supplies drive for migrant students. We would be the drop off location so it would bring people to the booth. Rant would also like to have more printed material about US and what we do, including events as well as a teaser for the humans of GH calendar and pamphlet on the Visionary Award and play the video. Werksma will also create a foam board presentation with all of the clippings about HRC over the years.
- h. Consideration of Sponsorship of the Hispanic Heritage Fiesta..... Werksma
  - i. Werksma will speak with Char Seise of Community Affairs to determine the dollar amount of in-kind support from the City so that we can advise Festival organizers and, in view of the city's fiscal situation, believes the HRC will not be successful in any ask to council to provide a \$1,000 cash sponsorship as past councils have voted to do.

9. Old Business

- e. NONE

10. New Business

- e. Chair (Emily Nail) & Co-Chair (Keith Colson) take their seats. Werksma is now Past Chair and will serve in that capacity until her second term ends June 30, 2023.

11. Second Call to Audience (none) ..... Nail

12. Adjournment & Next meeting: July 28, 2022

Motion to Adjourn – Werksma moved, supported by McGee, all in favor