

Human Relations Commission
Minutes of July 22, 2021 Regular Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers

Meeting called to order by Werksma at 5:34 pm.

Present: Anne Baker, Brett Billedeau, Keith Colson, Natalie Crowe, Shyle Lyons, Wes McGee, Alexa Redick and Louann Werksma. Emily Nail and Rhonda Kleyn present via Zoom.

Absent: Karen Forbes and Avery Rant

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Baker, Seconded by Billedeau, all in favor to approve agenda with one addition; Item 9g, request from anti-racism task force to sign letter of support being sent to county commissioners.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Lyons, Seconded by Baker, all in favor to approve June 2021 minutes with the addition of a last name (Swiftney) to a name on the last page of the minutes.

Welcome Guests: Bob Monetza, Mayor, and Mike Dora, GH City Council member.

General call to the audience: No comments at this time.

Liaison Updates:

- a. Loutit Library-John Martin was present, he will be the temporary HRC liaison. Martin informed the group that the library is busy. They have 1200 kids signed up for the summer reading program. They have partnered with GHAPS for the Meet Up and Eat Up events in Central Park.

Old Business :

1. **Welcome and Introduction of New Members**
 - a. All members briefly introduced themselves

New Business:

2. **Nominations for HRC Leadership:** Motion by Werksma, Seconded by Lyons, all in favor Werksma will remain commission chair until 6/30/2022. Vice Chair, Emily Nail and 2nd Vice Chair, Keith Colson.
3. **Subcommittee Assignments:** Werksma reviewed the list of sub-committees, each committee chair and the responsibilities for each group. See Attached list.
4. **HRC Booth at 2021 Hispanic Heritage Fiesta:** Werksma assigned Avery Rant as the lead for this. Kleyn will assist with a tent and tables if needed and any printing needs.

collaborating with the libraries. Werksma reported that United Way has new grant funds to manage new programs as a result of the American Rescue Act as well as state funds to assist with vaccines. The United Ways of Allegan and Ottawa counties have merged, and the finance staff of the Ottawa/Allegan United Way is providing back office finance and accounting services under a service contract with United Way of the Lakeshore, which encompasses Muskegon, Oceana and Newaygo Counties. Werksma noted that this is in line with a nationwide trend for regionalization of community United Way agencies.

Motion to adjourn at 7:39 pm by Baker, seconded by Colson, all in favor.

Next meeting August 26, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.