



Minutes  
City Of Edina, Minnesota  
Human Rights and Relations Commission  
City Hall, Community Room  
November 17, 2015 at 7:00pm

**I. Call To Order**

Chair Arseneault called the November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Human Rights and Relations Commission meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

**II. Roll Call**

Answering roll call were Chair Arseneault, Commissioners Burza, Kennedy, Rinn, Seidman, Tian, Vecchio-Smith, and Student Commissioners Kearney and Ramesh. Staff present: HRRC Staff Liaison MJ Lamon and City Management Fellow Devin Massopust.

Absent Members: Commissioner Winnick

**III. Approval Of Meeting Agenda**

***Motion by Kennedy to approve the November 17, 2015 Human Rights and Relations Commission meeting agenda. Motion seconded by Seidman. Motion carried.***

**IV. Approval Of Meeting Minutes**

***Motion by Rinn to approve the October 27, 2015 minutes. Motion seconded by Seidman. Motion carried.***

**V. Special Recognitions and Presentations**

**A. Arnie Bigbee, Community Conversations Report**

Arnie Bigbee gave a presentation to the Commission about the history of the Community Conversations project and the recent conclusion of the listening sessions. He noted it was a great experience and that the results will hopefully allow the community to develop and mature.

**VI. Community Comment**

None.

**VII. Reports/Recommendations**

**A. City Council Work Session Recap**

The Commission discussed their recent work session with the Edina City Council and follow up action for the commission based upon the meeting, including the Mayor's suggestion regarding an event about cultural understanding in light of recent events in Paris.

***Motion by Seidman to add a new event to the 2016 Work Plan tentatively titled “Sharing Values and Sharing Communities”. Motion seconded by Tian. Motion carried.***

**B. 2015 Work Plan Updates**

**1. Human Services Funding Task Force**

Commissioner Rinn updated the Commission on the status of the Human Services Funding Task Force and that the City Council reviewed the Task Force’s recommendation and will approve it at the following City Council meeting.

**2. League of Minnesota Human Rights Commissions**

Commissioner Kennedy reported on the annual meeting of the League of Minnesota Human Rights Commissions on November 7, 2015. A new President (David Singleton) was elected.

**3. Human Rights City Designation**

Commissioner Kennedy let the Commission know that there are five confirmed dates so far for presentations regarding the Human Rights City Designation on November 24<sup>th</sup>, January 28<sup>th</sup>, February 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> and March 7.

**C. Preparation for December Televised Meeting**

The Commission reviewed what would be taking place at the December 10<sup>th</sup> televised meeting; the commission will follow our regular meeting agenda, beginning with a special presentation by guest speaker Government Affairs Consultant Sarah Walker. About 35 minutes is estimated for Ms. Walker’s presentation (20-25 minutes presentation with up to 10 minutes for questions).

**VIII. Correspondence and Petitions**

None.

**IX. Chair and Member Comments**

- Commissioner Seidman let the Commission know that their work is being noticed in the community, especially as it relates to the Days of Remembrance Event and that people in the public want to know when the next event is being held.
- Commissioner Burza shared that she thought the work session with the City Council went well and was pleased by the meeting.
- Commissioner Kearney stated that the events in Paris bring to light the important work that is being done at the local level by the Commission.
- Commissioner Rhamesh noted that he is looking forward to seeing the report that is produced from the Community Conversations events.
- Chair Arseneault told the Commission that the Bias Offense Response team convened on November 9<sup>th</sup> about an incident that occurred at Wooddale Park and the response protocol was being followed.

**X. Staff Comments**

Staff Liaison Lamon stated that on December 1<sup>st</sup> applications for commissioner reappointments will be sent out.

**XI. Calendar of Events**

**XII. Adjournment**

*Motion by Kennedy to adjourn the November 17<sup>th</sup> HRRC meeting at 8:37 PM. Motion seconded by Seidman. Motion carried.*