

1 **Human Rights, Inclusion and Engagement Commission**  
2 **Meeting Minutes**  
3 **April 19, 2023**  
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6 **Commissioners Present:** Amanda Becker, Elliot Francke, Jeena Gurung Vomhof, Richard  
7 James, Kathryn Macomber, Laura Palmquist, Adepeju Solarin  
8 (Peju) (arrived at 7:18 p.m.) and David Tidball.  
9

10 **Youth Commissioners:** None

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12 **Commissioners Absent:** William Hill, (excused)  
13

14 **Staff Present:** Corey Yunke, Community Relations Manager  
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16 **Call to Order/Roll Call**

17  
18 The Human Rights, Inclusion, and Engagement Commission (HRIEC) meeting was called to  
19 order at 6:30 p.m.  
20

21 **Receive Public Comment**  
22

23 **Commission Response to Community Issues**  
24

25 **Commissioner Outreach and Engagement Updates**

26 Commissioner Macomber explained on March 16<sup>th</sup>, as a part of League of Women Voters she  
27 went to the Robata Cultural Center for a presentation of what is going on at the center. She  
28 updated the Commission on the presentation and answered questions of the Commission  
29 regarding the center and presenter.  
30

31 Chair Palmquist mentioned Earth Day events on the City calendar.  
32

33 Commissioner Gurung Vomhof indicated from the business point of view, she goes to different  
34 craft sales and markets on the weekends and there is so much demand with a lot of diversity  
35 between each booth. There are a lot of opportunities in the City for small businesses.  
36

37 Vice-Chair James indicated the Commission started to get a list of names of people that could be  
38 contacted. He noted he is still taking those names and adding them to the list for Commission  
39 use.  
40

41 **Approve Minutes**  
42

43 **a. March 15, 2023 Human Rights, Inclusion and Engagement Commission**  
44

45 Commissioner Macomber moved and Commissioner James seconded a motion to approve the  
46 March 15, 2023 Human Rights, Inclusion and Engagement Commission meeting minutes as  
47 presented. Motion passed unanimously.  
48

49 **New Business**

50  
51 **a. Welcome New Commissioners – Francke, Hill, Gurung Vomhof, Tidball**  
52 Chair Palmquist welcomed the new Commission Members to the HRIEC. She  
53 performed the Oath of Office with the new Commissioners.  
54

55 Vice-Chair James updated the Commissioners on the buddy system and how it works.  
56

57 Commissioner Becker reviewed her experience using the buddy system when she first  
58 started on the Commission. She thought it was very helpful.  
59

60 Chair Palmquist indicated Commissioners Becker and Peju will have Commissioners  
61 Gurung Vomhof and Tidball as buddies, Commissioner Macomber will have  
62 Commissioner Hill as a buddy and Vice-Chair James and Commissioner Francke will  
63 be buddies.  
64

65 **b. Chair/Vice Chair Nominations and Election**

66 Chair Palmquist asked for nominations for the Chair, and Vice Chair.  
67

68 Vice-Chair James nominated Commissioner Palmquist for Chair.  
69

70 Commissioner James moved, and Commissioner Becker seconded a motion to  
71 appoint Palmquist as Chair of the HRIEC. Motion passed unanimously.  
72

73 Chair Palmquist nominated Commissioner James for Vice-Chair.  
74

75 Commissioner Palmquist moved, and Commissioner Becker seconded a motion to  
76 appoint James as Vice Chair of the HRIEC. Motion passed unanimously.  
77

78 **c. Discuss 2023-2024 HRIEC Work Plan**

79 Chair Palmquist reviewed what the work plan is and what it entails for the new  
80 Commissioners.  
81

82 Vice-Chair James reviewed the 2022-2023 Essay Contest with the new  
83 Commissioners. He noted it was decided this year the Essay Contest was not going to  
84 occur and would be looked at next year.  
85

86 Chair Palmquist noted Rose Fest Parade Engagement is run solely by Commissioner  
87 Becker.  
88

89 Commissioner Becker updated the Commission on Rose Fest 2022 parade that  
90 occurred and progress to date on the 2023 parade. She noted it was fun doing the  
91 outreach and connecting with people. This year it was proposed to reach out to the  
92 Karen group to walk in the parade. She tried to connect with this group and that did  
93 not happen, so she spoke with Mr. Brooks who gave her some specific contacts to  
94 reach out to, but she has not heard from them. She indicated she did not want to be a  
95 pest, so she was bringing this information back to the Commission and thought there  
96 was still an opportunity to reach out to another group such as Seeds of Hope who do a  
97 lot with immigration and preserving heritage seeds.

98  
99 Chair Palmquist thought once the subgroup is formed some decisions should be made  
100 so that this can move forward.

101  
102 Commissioner Peju arrived at the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

103  
104 Commissioner Peju asked if it was common for a group to be quiet and not respond.

105  
106 Mr. Yunke explained the KOM is a busy organization. In meeting with the Envision  
107 Roseville program it took them a while to respond. He added that his staff is reaching  
108 out to the KOM Organization and the Bhutanese community for the upcoming  
109 proclamations so staff can follow up with them on the parade as well.

110  
111 Commissioner Peju asked if the Rabata Organization might be interested in walking  
112 in the parade.

113  
114 Commissioner Macomber indicated she did not ask the Robata Organization  
115 specifically about the parade, but Commissioner Becker and she are planning on  
116 going in there and seeing if it is a fit for them.

117  
118 Commissioner Tidball asked if the Commission has anything else to hand out besides  
119 candy.

120  
121 Commissioner Becker explained they have not but at the last meeting the  
122 Commission came up with a goal of Amplify, Celebrate and Affirm and that may lead  
123 itself to a poster or banner that the Commission carries to celebrate. She thought it  
124 would be nice to have some sort of banner.

125  
126 Commissioner Tidball thought it would be nice to hand out something to people as  
127 the Commission is walking by in the parade. He was thinking about the visual art that  
128 happens with the poster contest and would make great artwork for a flyer or  
129 bookmark that has a little bit about the HRIEC and could be handed out with the  
130 candy.

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132 Chair Palmquist indicated there was a student that made a painting, and she wondered  
133 if that could be blown up and invite the student to walk with them in the parade.

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Vice-Chair James indicated he had similar thoughts on ways to promote the Commissions with the community.

Mr. Yunke indicated he liked the ideas presented.

Vice-Chair James updated the Commission on the proclamations including the history and moving forward with them. He noted in the past the HRIEC was responsible for the two display cases, and it became burdensome and stopped with COVID. He thought the current volunteers are doing a great job and that the subgroup can come up with ideas going forward and bring them to the Commission for finalization and then to the volunteers to work on for the displays.

Chair Palmquist thought that was a good idea and the subgroup should meet with the volunteers at their meetings to talk about the ideas so the volunteers would not need to come to the HRIEC meetings.

Mr. Yunke indicated the communication staff is currently working on upcoming proclamations and would like HRIEC support and help as well.

Vice-Chair James thought the subgroup could coordinate with the Communication staff on the proclamations.

Chair Palmquist updated the Commission on the Youth Engagement work plan. She explained she has been working with organizations that have been coming to the Commission. She has also met with principals of the schools and students, even though the students she has talked to do not live in Roseville so cannot participate on the Commission.

Commissioner Becker updated the Commission on Community Outreach. She thought by opening this item up for all of the Commission to discuss ideas at each meeting ideas can be formed on how to get input from the community and how to connect with the community. She thought it was helpful to have all the Commissioners engaged in this topic rather than a subcommittee when it is really a big part of the Commission's mission.

Commissioner Peju explained a running spreadsheet should be kept helping the Commission keep track of the outreach. She thought staff could help with that.

Vice-Chair James asked what Commissioner Becker seen the lead role to be.

Commissioner Becker was not sure that this needed to be a workplan item, but she thought having an identity or materials is important when doing outreach by the Commission. Being able to have things when attending events is important and can continue to help with recruitment in the City and will add value to community

179 engagement. She thought having the relationship with the communication group and  
180 Mr. Yunke was important as well. She would still like to do audio or video interviews  
181 of residents to document Roseville’s history and story. She thought this was  
182 important from a historical perspective too.

183  
184 Vice-Chair James thought it was important to still have a lead for this item, so things  
185 do not fall through the cracks. He thought the whole idea of community outreach and  
186 why the Commission is doing it and what they are looking for the community to do is  
187 something that the Commission has struggled to define with the Commission and, but  
188 he thought it was a valuable thing and something the Commission needed to do. He  
189 thought that focusing on that as a part of next year’s process is very valuable and a  
190 very necessary thing.

191  
192 Commissioner Francke indicated there are various types of outreaches and he thought  
193 the Commission can be more concrete about actually for this particular item, it does  
194 not have to be a work plan, but it does have to be a work organization. He thought  
195 when tracking this item, it should be one week before the HRIEC meeting. He  
196 indicated he will help with putting the information together so the presentation can be  
197 made at the meeting. He explained when trying to be an outreach group or an  
198 outreach sub commission, a lot of different things are going on at once with different  
199 Commissioners and everyone has different needs and a different agenda and they  
200 want to reach out to everyone but that cannot be done but an agenda needs to be set  
201 on what group is going to be contacted and who will be doing the contacting.

202  
203 Commissioner Peju explained to be fair to the Chair’s that is what the Commission  
204 has been trying to do over the last year and a half but because of the ebbs and flows  
205 of capacity and life the Commission has not quite turned that corner.

206  
207 Chair Palmquist explained the Commission brought to the City Council before  
208 Commission interviews the importance of commitment to this Commission. One of  
209 the struggles the Commission is running into is that they want to do all of that and  
210 there is not a lack of want but the lack of capacity and so much more that happened so  
211 nothing got accomplished. She proposed, as a group, to have Commissioner Becker  
212 give a presentation at the next meeting about what the Commission’s goals are, what  
213 the Commission has been working on, some sort of refresher for everyone. She would  
214 like to continue discussion next month on what the Commission is missing, what gaps  
215 need to be filled and what needs to be worked on.

216  
217 Commissioner Becker explained as Commissioners come and go new skills come,  
218 new groups, new opportunities, so there is a space in their formula’s, the mission  
219 envision for new input and thought. Outreach has become a staple in the agenda  
220 because it is the umbrella of what the Commission does.

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222 Chair Palmquist asked the Commission which subcommittees each one would like to  
223 be on.

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Essay Contest:

Vice-Chair James, lead with Commissioners Francke and Tidball.

Rose Fest Parade Engagement:

Commissioner Becker, lead with Commissioners Gurung Vomhof and Peju.

Commissioner Gurung Vomhof indicated she had contacts with small business owners and seniors in the City that are able to help out. She indicated there is also the Roseville Optimist Group that could help with different causes.

Commissioner Tidball thought because this is on a short timeline if Commissioner Becker were to contact a number of groups simultaneously and give them a deadline indicating the Commission is taking the first ones who contact her it may help with the timeline a little bit.

Proclamation Support:

Vice-Chair James, lead with Commissioners Macomber and Tidball.

Youth Engagement:

Chair Palmquist indicated she would be willing to pass on the lead to someone else because she would like to spend time with each of the leads on the other work items.

Commissioner Becker indicated she could take the lead on this item with Commissioners Peju, Gurung Vomhof and Vice-Chair James.

Vice-Chair James indicated he would like to be involved in Youth Engagement somehow, but he did not want to overextend himself.

Chair Palmquist indicated she will reach out to the leads for planning and updates.

Commissioner Francke indicated he would like to be on the Community Outreach subcommittee and thought Commissioner Gurung Vomhof could help him with senior connections.

Chair Palmquist indicated these work items are fluid and will be discussed monthly.

**Other New Business or Reports**

**a. Staff Report**

Community Relations Manager Yunke reported on the following:

- Communication Relations Department Introduction

**Announcements**

268 Vice-Chair James reminded everyone that group emails cannot be sent. If there is anything the  
269 Commission needs to send to the Commission, it needs to be sent to Mr. Brooks so he can send it  
270 out to the Commission.

271

272 **Future Agenda Items**

273 **a.** Outreach Presentation by Commissioner Becker

274 **b.** Tracker update

275 **c.** List for upcoming events happening in the City

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277 **Adjournment**

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279 Chair Palmquist adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

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281 Respectfully submitted,

282

283 Sue Osbeck

284 *TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*