



Human Relations Commission Minutes

February 4, 2025 4:00 PM

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WELCOME

Call to Order.

Acting Chair Helen Hurley called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. Members present were Acting Chair Helen Hurley, Mara Bradford, Charline Gray, Virginia Hudson, Mindy Meadows, and Lupe Moe. Advisory member Independence Deputy Police Chief Michelle Sumstad, City Council liaison Councilmember Bridget McCandless, and City staff liaison, John Mayfield were also present.

1. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 26, 2024

Virginia Hudson moved to approve the November 26, 2024 meeting minutes. Mara Bradford seconded the motion. The meeting minutes of November 26, 2024, were approved 6-0.

DISCUSSION

1. Award Budget Update

Members discussed the Human Relations Commission budget for the Fiscal Year beginning on July 1, 2024, thru June 30, 2025. The City of Independence annually provides the Human

Relations Commission with a \$500 budget. John Mayfield shared that the Human Relations Commission has spent \$219.98 to date leaving a remaining balance of \$280.02. Members inquired if the remaining funds must be spent by June 30, 2025, or if the funds roll over. John Mayfield will check with the Finance Department.

2. MLK Celebration Review

Members discussed the January 20, 2025, MLK celebration. Some members indicated that the sound system may need to be improved upon. Mara Bradford indicated that the Chamber of Commerce has a portable microphone system that may be available for the 2026 MLK Celebration. Members believed that overall that the program was good and that they were pleased.

3. Bylaws Review

Members discussed proposed bylaws revisions. Members did not suggest any changes to the proposed bylaws revisions. Some members indicated that they would prefer meetings about the annual skateboard competition to be held in person, if possible. The proposed bylaws revisions will be voted on at the next meeting.

4. Review of City Council Resolution 7082 regarding membership on Boards & Commissions.

Members inquired about City Council Resolution 7082 regarding City Boards and Commissions.

Councilmember McCandless shared with the members that the City Council believes that there needs to be a minimum standard of expectations and behavior in place for members of City Boards and Commissions.

City Council Resolution 7082 requires an annual training. It is anticipated that the annual training will be held in spring 2025. John Mayfield will share more information with the members as soon as an update is available.

5. ICON Award

Members discussed the ICON award. Members shared that a May deadline for making a decision on the awards is an appropriate deadline. It is the intention of the Human Relations Commission to present an individual and a business award at the Pride event. Members believe that Pride is scheduled to be held on Saturday, June 28, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

Mara Bradford moved to adjourn the meeting. Virginia Hudson seconded the motion. Motion approved 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.