



Human Relations Commission Minutes

July 22, 2025 4:00 PM

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WELCOME

Call to Order

Chair Helen Hurley called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. Members present were Chair Helen Hurley, Vice-Chair Lupe Moe, Secretary Mara Bradford, Charline Gray, and Mindy Meadows. City Liaison John Mayfield and Deputy Police Chief Michelle Sumstad were also present.

JUNETEENTH REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

The turnout and event were great! The only comment for improvement was to ensure we have new shirts every year. From the PD standpoint, there could be better communication. There were few people at the parade as entries and even fewer watching along the route. It is essential to make sure that City Staff are informed of all event details. There is a recommendation that a member of the City sit on the Juneteenth Committee. This year, there was not one. Juneteenth will be right in the middle of the 2026 World Cup.

ICON AWARD REVIEW AND DISCUSSION

There was a good turnout at the presentation however the awardees were unable to be there. We

scheduled a secondary event where our awardees were honored. As long as we continue to push out the information through the City and the Chamber of Commerce we will gain more traction. Plenty of room for growth. If there isn't a business nominated, then there needs to be one person awarded each year. John suggests that we work with the Juneteenth event to increase its public awareness. The awards themselves were beautiful. Englewood Arts donated some of the cost.

SKATEBOARD COMPETITION EVENT DISCUSSION

Work with other groups to get sponsorships and supplies. Big Brothers and Big Sisters would be a great partner. Mara will reach out. Helen will reach out to Nina to get an update. Hy-Vee has a donation form that we can use to ask for food. Mara also has a connection with Hy-Vee catering and can ask. Lupe is working on the music and speakers.

ADJOURNMENT

Charline Gray made a motion to adjourn. Lupe Moe seconded. Motion passed 5-0. Next meeting will be in person on Tuesday, September 16th at 4:00 p.m. The location will be the Independence Utilities Center, Room 117 located at 17221 East 23rd Street S. Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.