

Human Rights Commission Committee on Communication, Community Inroads & Engagement

Monday, April 6th 2026 at 1:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

Sarah Zoen called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

2. Roll Call

Present were Committee Members Sarah Zoen, Mel Poindexter, Corey Barr, and Lisa Laplante.

3. Acceptance of Minutes

The acceptance of the minutes will take place at the next full Commission meeting.

4. Discussion

- a. Human Rights Commission Needs Assessment Goals 1, 2 and 4: Communication, Community Inroads, and Engagement

The Committee discussed ongoing initiatives relevant to these goals. These included a discussion of a public service announcement on the work of the Human Rights Commission which Mel Poindexter and Sarah Zoen worked on with Watertown Cable Access as well as an upcoming webinar on leveraging global human rights in municipal government. The Committee also discussed asking the full Commission to support an expenditure for tabling materials.

- b. Criteria for Human Rights Commission Participation in Events

The Committee reviewed a document compiled by another Human Rights Commission subcommittee months ago on the Commission's criteria for participation in events. The document includes consideration of alignment with the HRC's mission, impact on the community, opportunity for relationship building, and focus on education. The document also assigns various levels of partnership depending on how relevant a community event is deemed.

- c. Mapping of Human Rights Commission Stakeholders

The Committee agreed to raise this issue with the full Commission and work with city staff to develop a comprehensive list of key stakeholders within the city.

d. Human Rights Commission Involvement in Upcoming City Events

This agenda item was covered under 4 (b)

e. Human Rights Commission Logo Update

Lisa Laplante shared that the Logo Committee has all but decided on a final logo and is working with the student on a few minor edits to her winning logo.

5. Public Comment

No member of the public offered comment.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:01 PM.