

# Human Rights Commission on Communication, Community Inroads, and Engagement Meeting Minutes

June 17, 2026

1:00 PM

## 1. Call to Order

Sarah Zoen called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM.

## 2. Roll Call

Present (all via zoom) were Committee Members Sarah Zoen, Mel Poindexter, and Lisa Laplante. Also present was Doug Newton as staff to the Human Rights Commission.

## 3. Acceptance of Minutes

The minutes for the previous Committee meeting had been accepted at the last full Human Rights Commission meeting.

## 4. Discussion

### a. Human Rights Commission Activities and Next Steps

The Committee discussed its participation in the upcoming School Committee meeting on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Commissioners present will be able to share with the School Committee the final Human Rights Commission logo which resulted from a contest featuring submissions by Watertown Public Schools students.

### b. Action Plan & Next Steps

Lisa Laplante shared a document she has been working on summarizing the work of the Human Rights Commission to this point and its goals for the future. The Committee expressed appreciation to Lisa for being so thorough and taking a significant amount of time to prepare this. The Commission will review this document at its next Commission meeting and consider sharing it with the City Council and other key stakeholders.

### c. Upcoming Events & Preparation

The Committee briefly discussed its participation at the Farmer's Market, Faire on the Square, and at the aforementioned School Committee meeting. The Committee also discussed its plan to host a larger scale Human Rights Day event in December.

### d. Logo Celebration Planning

The Commission is excited to honor the winning student at the School Committee meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Commission will continue to use the new logo in as much

branding as possible moving forward and will look to build on its partnership with the student body.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM. These minutes were prepared by Doug Newton.