

Human Rights Commission

Minutes – September 18, 2018

Westwood Room, City Hall

I. Call to Order

Chair Wilhelm-Garbers called the meeting to order at 7:03.

A. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Sara Wilhelm-Garbers, Katherine Arnold, Maria Eustaquio, Justin Carlson and Jack Ostrovsky

Staff Present: Staff Liaison Breanna Freedman

B. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Arnold made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Stolp and Commissioner Estaquio seconded. 5-0 approve.

C. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Arnold made a motion to approve the June meeting minutes. Commissioner Ostrovsky seconded. 5-0 approve.

II. Task Force Updates

Commissioner Arnold gave an update from the subcommittee that is working on the immigration and segregation statement that city council requested the HRC look into. She made a close comparison of this request to making a statement of creating a sanctuary city, and gave some of the pros and cons. She spoke to how this issue directly impacts St. Louis Park and how making a statement on immigration and separation of families.

Commissioner Arnold gave some examples of what other municipalities are doing that take action on this issue rather than making a statement (St. Paul; Hennepin Co.)

As an alternative to city council making a statement, Commissioner Arnold made a recommendation to ask the city to develop a fund to give grants for community members to apply for projects that would support immigrant communities. This would be announced with a statement that gets to the point of the city disagreeing with what is being done at the federal level.

The Commission discussed the October 9 event and what it's purpose would be.

The HRC has been tasked by city council to give recommendation of a statement on immigration; the event would be an opportunity for the HRC to hear community input for making a statement.

III. BWC Update

There is no further action or tasks required from the HRC regarding the body worn cameras policy.

IV. League of Women Voters potential collaboration

Chair Wilhelm-Garbers reached out, as well as Commissioner Stolp, and have not had a response from the League of Women Voters. Any communication received the League of Women Voters will be shared with the rest of the commission.

v. New Business

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.