BOARD OF HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES

Regular Meeting: Thursday: May 21, 2015:

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Human Relations Commissioners of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, was held in the City Commission Room at City Hall at 12:00 o'clock p.m., Thursday, May 21, 2015.

The Human Relations Commissioners present or absent were as follows:

Present: Rachel Hoffman, Abdiwali Sharif-Abdinasir, Keith Bjornson, Waseem Altaf

Absent: Laetitia Hellerud, David Lanpher, Tanya RedRoad

Also Present: Willard Yellow Bird, Cristie Jacobsen (Fargo Police)

Item 1. Welcome and Introductions
Chair Hoffman welcomed Members to the meeting and introductions were made.

Item 2. Approve Order of Agenda
No action was taken by the Board.

Item 3. Minutes: Regular Meeting of March 19, 2015
No action was taken by the Board.

Item 4. Presentation: Madan Rana: "In Search of a Nation" based on Bhutanese Refugee in Nepal. Kul Basnet: Bhutanese Community Support for the Devastating Earthquake
Cultural Planner Willard Yellow Bird stated Madan Rana, a Bhutanese immigrant and NDSU student, would like to show a movie titled "In Search of a Nation" and Madan inquired if the Human Relations Commission would be willing to sponsor a venue for showing this movie. Mr. Yellow Bird also noted Kul Basnet, an interpreter for Lutheran Social Services, stated he was hoping the Human Relations Commission could help spread information about providing assistance and support to those affected by the recent earthquake in Nepal. Mr. Yellow Bird added Madan Rana and Kul Basnet were unable to attend today's meeting.

Fargo Police Cultural Liaison Cristie Jacobsen added a checking account with US Bank has been opened under the Fiscal Sponsorship of the Bhutanese Buddhist Society of North Dakota to accept donations made for earthquake relief aid.

Item 5. Public Comment (12:10)
No public comments were heard.

Item 6. Update: Welcoming Week and Police Community Picnic

Ms. Jacobsen gave a brief update on the upcoming Annual Community Picnic hosted by the Fargo Police Department on Tuesday, June 16, 2015 in Island Park from 5 p.m.-8 p.m. She stated the Human Relations Commission is invited to have a booth at the event.

In addition, Ms. Jacobsen stated the rotary club agreed to assist in supporting the funding of the flags for the National Welcome Week celebration. She added members of the Welcoming Committee inquired if the Human Relations Commission would be willing to support funding for the soccer tournament, in addition to any outside funding support.

Item 7. Funding Updates

Mr. Yellow Bird gave an update on funding requests that were approved at the recent Fargo Human Relations Commission Executive Committee meeting.

Item 8. Other Business and Announcements

Mr. Bjornson discussed two items with the Board. He stated, in regards to the new city hall, Freedom Resource Center would like to work with the City Commission and architect of the new city hall regarding accessibility features and ADA accommodations for those with disabilities. In addition, Mr. Bjornson inquired if there has been follow-up in relation to a possible ordinance regarding parking accessibility for specialized, ADA-compliant vehicles to park diagonally across two parking spaces. Mr. Yellow Bird responded he will follow-up with the City Attorney on this item.

Mr. Yellow Bird stated there is a TEDxFargo event on Thursday, July 23 starting at 8 a.m. at the Fargo Civic Center.

Mr. Bjornson stated Freedom Resource Center is sponsoring an ADA celebration, open to the public, on Thursday, July 9, 2015 with gates opening at 4:30 p.m. at the Fargodome lobby (outdoors weather-permitting).

Item 9. Adjourn

The time at adjournment was 12:36 p.m.