



City of Grand Haven Human Relations Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday April 23, 2026, called to order at 5:32 p.m.

City Hall [519 Washington Grand Haven, MI 49417]

The Highlights:

The regular meeting of the Grand Haven Human Relations Commission was called to order by Comm. Mendiola-Suarez at 5:32 p.m. in the council chamber of Grand Haven City Hall [519 Washington Ave. Grand Haven, MI 49417]

Commission Members present: Amber Mendiola-Suarez, Cara Mazure, John Siemion, Steve TerMolen, Steffi Thayer, Luke Kulikamp, Estrellita Bazuin

Commission Members absent: Amanda Pretzer, Paige Howland

Community Members present: Ashley Latsch, City of Grand Haven Liaison

1. Upon the presentation of the Agenda, Comm Siemion motioned to approve said agenda with Comm. Kulikamp seconding the motion, approved by a majority vote, with a correction to change the date of the Child Abuse Prevention Month proclamation reading to be 4/13/26.
2. Upon the presentation of the March meeting Minutes, Comm. Kulikamp motioned to approve said meeting minutes with Comm. Siemion seconding the motion, approved by majority vote.
3. A welcome call to the audience is made by Comm. Mendiola-Suarez.
 - a. No audience members
4. Liaison report from Comm. Termolen: The Four Pointes Center for Successful Aging is hosting an art fundraiser on Friday, April 25 at 6:30 pm. Prom with a Purpose, a fundraiser for The Momentum Center, is on Friday, May 15.
5. **Old Business**
 - a. Comm. Mazure read the Child Abuse Prevention Month proclamation at the City Council meeting on 4/13/2026. In honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month, there is a pinwheel garden and educational display (resource table) at the Loutit Library the entire month of April. Thank you to Comm. Bazuin and Pretzer for their assistance in planting the pinwheels.

- b. Led by Comm. Bazuin, the HRC is planning a Mental Health Awareness Month Chalk Event on Saturday, May 30 from 1:00-3:00 pm at Central Park, pending confirmation from the City Manager that the date doesn't conflict with another event at that location. Comm. Bazuin created flyers that can be distributed throughout the community and on social media. Comm. Mendiola-Suarez is ordering sensory stickers and green pinwheels. Local mental health organizations will be invited to have a resource table, including but not limited to The Momentum Center, Mosaic Counseling, Arbor Circle, CMH, Crisis Stabilization Unit, the EpiCenter, Grand Haven Pride, etc. Comm. Mazure made a motion to approve the event, seconded by Comm. Kulikamp, and approved by majority vote.
- c. Upon the presentation of the Mental Health Awareness proclamation for May, Comm. Bazuin motioned to approve said proclamation with Comm. Kulikamp seconding the motion, approved by majority vote. Comm. Bazuin will read the proclamation at the May City Council meeting.
- d. Comm. Bazuin continues to add to and work on the Community Resource list to be added to the City's website.
- e. The HRC is planning a community event on a to-be-determined date in July to support the local nonprofit Kid's Food Basket Event. Options for supporting Kid's Food Basket include coloring the food bags and organizing a food drive. Comm. Bazuin will contact OddSide Ale's to see if we can host the event at their Grand Haven location.
- f. Veteran's Day is November 11. Comm. Mendiola-Suarez will send a draft of the written proclamation for review and a future vote.
- g. The newest version of the Resolution on Affordable Housing will be emailed to commissioners for review and approval before recommending it to be submitted to the City Council. Comm. Bazuin suggested creating a 1-page fact sheet. Comm. Bazuin and Termolen are leading this effort.
- h. Commissioners discussed the proposed Events Table Ideas document created by Comm. Siemion. Commissioners will review and provide feedback. Comm. Mazure suggested creating HRC stickers to be available for the public to take, along with a QR code linked to a community feedback survey.
- i. Regarding the Pride Booth scheduled for Saturday, June 13, Comm. Mendiola-Suarez will create and send a sign-up genius for commissioners to select volunteer slots to be present at the HRC table. Comm. Mendiola-Suarez will not be available to assist with the HRC table that day but will bring materials for review to the May meeting.
- j. Regarding the Purple Heart Event scheduled in August, Comm. Kulikamp reported that this first-ever event (for Grand Haven) is still in the planning stages but there will likely be opportunities for HRC commissioners to volunteer.
- k. Regarding the Coast Guard Festival Parade, Comm. Kulikamp provided an update on the opportunity for the HRC to participate. To be in the Grand Parade, there is a \$200 fee, which is unlikely to be waved; however, there may be no cost to walk in the Kid's parade, which is also a shorter parade. The Kid's Parade is on Saturday, July 25. We cannot hand out candy but we can hand out other items, such as bracelets, stickers, etc.

6. New Business

- a. Comm. Siemion shared that on June 4, there will be community event at OddSide from 6:00-7:30 pm. The seminar will cover “Community, Home, and Financial Readiness”. The 90-minute seminar will bring together trusted local professionals from Farm Bureau Insurance, the Mortgage House, ATA Title, REALBroker Realty, Flagstar Bank, and the Epicenter. There will be door prizes and limited quantity giveaways.
 - b. Market & Kids Day at St. John’s Episcopal this Saturday, April 25 from 3:00-6:00 pm
 - c. At the Chamber event, Comm. Siemion signed up to volunteer with Humanity for Prisoners
 - d. Comm. Bazuin added a new HRC document to the drive, and reminder about project tracker in the drive.
 - e. Comm. Siemion reminded the HRC about Comm. Mendiola-Suarez’s term ending in June 2026. Chair position open at that time.
 - f. Comm. Thayer can share about HRC events with the high school and NHS.
 - i. Grand Haven High School Pay It Forward events
 - Saturday, April 25th at 7:30 pm Movie for Meaning
 - Separate event collecting sports equipment to donate to children in the migrant camps
 - g. Comm. Bazuin talked to Heather Solomon – commissioners are allowed to be at Chamber of Commerce events; however, they need our titles, full name, and email to add to the City of Grand Haven’s list of people allowed to be at events.
7. A second call to the audience is made by Comm. Mendiola-Suarez.
 - a. No audience members
 8. The meeting was adjourned at 6:39 pm.
 9. The next Human Relations Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 28th, 2026.

Meeting Minutes submitted by Comm. Cara Mazure 5/19/2026