

City of Grand Haven Human Relations Commission

Thursday February 27, 2025, called to order at 5:33 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 Keith Colson at 5:33 p.m. in the council chamber of Grand Haven City Hall [519 Washington Ave. Grand Haven, MI 49417]

Commission Members present: Amber Mendiola-Suarez, Keith Colson, Greta Fuller, and Steve Termolen.

Commission Members absent: Emmett Brown

Community Members present: Ashley Latsch, City Manager.

Others Present: Five individuals from the community were present.

1. Upon the presentation of the Agenda, Comm. Mendiola-Suarez motioned to approve said agenda with Comm. Termolen seconding the motion.
2. Upon the presentation of the November meeting Minutes, Comm. Termolen motioned to approve said November meeting minutes with Comm. Mendiola-Suarez seconding the motion.
3. A welcome call to the audience is made by Comm. Colson. Joann from Grand Haven stated her opposition to Grand Haven becoming a Sanctuary City. Joann stated her opposition to DEI initiatives.
4. Liaison Report: The Holland HRC stated that non-members will be participating in HRC sub committees and, there will be a Fair Housing Rights for Home seekers in Rental Housing through the Fair Housing Center of West Michigan on April 29, 2025. The Momentum Center will be hosing a Town Hall regarding Mental Health and Religion on March 27, 2025, there will be a free dinner and movie (Conclave) on March 14, 2025, and they are looking for ideas regarding future movies.
5. Old Business:
 - a. The Black History Month Proclamation was read at the February 2025 Grand Haven City Council Meeting.
 - b. A 2025 Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service was not coordinated between the City of Grand Haven and, the HRC due to lack of timing. A more adequate and timelier plan for 2026 will be created in the future.
6. New Business:
 - a. Discussed the need for adequate preparation for Black History Month in 2026.
 - b. There is currently one applicant (with an interview scheduled) for a seat on the HRC.

- c. Comm. Termolen to create a Proclamation for Women's History Month to be read at a Grand Haven City Council Meeting.
 - d. Comm. Colson announced his resignation from the HRC. Comm. Colson's last month on the HRC will be March 2025. A vice-chair position will be open.
 - e. The DEI proclamation to be read at a future Grand Haven City Council meeting. This proclamation will reaffirm the DEI statement listed on the City of Grand Haven's website.
 - f. Comm. Fuller to make a push for information regarding the student seat on the HRC to be played on the Grand Haven High School's daily slide show.
 - g. The commission tabled the discussion regarding Grand Haven becoming a Sanctuary City (undocumented individuals/lgbtqia+ communities) for the following meeting. The commission had decided more research on this topic was needed to further the conversation.
 - h. Discussed the possibility of creating a Proclamation for Gender Affirming Care and, how we can practice this.
- 7. A second call is made to the audience by Comm. Colson.
 - 8. Comm. Termolen motions to adjourn the meeting with Comm. Fuller seconding the adjourn motion.
 - a. Meeting Adjourned at 6:02 p.m.
 - 9. The next Human Relations Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday March 27, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes submitted by Comm. Amber Mendiola-Suarez 3-25-2025