



**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING AGENDA
February 16, 2022 - 5:00 PM
Hjemkomst Center**

The Moorhead Human Rights Commission welcomes and encourages public input on issues listed on the agenda or of general community interest, time and Council permitting. Speakers are limited to 3-minute presentations. Citizens wishing to address the Human Rights Commission regarding a specific agenda item will be afforded an opportunity during the discussion of that item. Citizens wishing to speak on matters not listed on the agenda will be afforded the opportunity to do so under the heading "Citizens Addressing the Commission," usually scheduled at the beginning and end of the agenda. Each person requesting the opportunity to speak is asked to fill out a "Request to Speak Form."

1. **Call to order** _____
2. **Land Acknowledgement Reading** _____
3. **Roll call** _____
4. **Approval of Agenda/Minutes** _____
5. **Citizens to be heard** _____
6. **Law Enforcement Update** _____
7. **Guest Speaker - 2021 Human Rights Award Recipient - Rory Beil - Clay County Public Health** _____
8. **Guest Speakers - Mohamed Adan Issack, Biyoole Procurement Specialist, Ministry of Planning, Investment, and Economic Development, Hassan Moalin Yusuf, Chairperson of Centre for Peace and Human Right (CPHR).** _____
9. **Guest Speaker - Page Amendment - Nevada Littlewolf & Liz Johnson** _____
10. **Guest Speaker - Hudda Ibrahim** _____
11. **2021 Annual Report** _____
12. **Election of Officers - Chair and Vice Chair** _____
13. **Subcommittee Reports** _____
14. **Reports/Announcements/Upcoming Events** _____
15. **New business** _____

Watch:

Website: cityofmoorhead.com

Moorhead's YouTube Channel: youtube.com/moorhead

MCAM:

Midco Channel 12

SparkLight (CableOne) Channel 58

Public Comment Line: 218.299.5001 (to speak on an agenda item or as a citizen to be heard)

Visit our website at www.cityofmoorhead.com

Land Acknowledgement Moorhead MN

We, the Moorhead Human Rights Commission, collectively and with gratitude, acknowledge the sacred land the City of Moorhead is built upon. We acknowledge the people who have resided here for generations and recognize that the spirit of the Dakota, Ojibwe, Metis and all Indigenous Communities permeates this land. The contribution of the Indigenous people shall not be forgotten nor will the success that is achieved by the People of the land. We will continue to educate, advocate, honor and unite for Indigenous people of this land.



**City of Moorhead
Human Rights Commission
Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2021 – 5:00PM
Hjemkomst Center**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Human Rights Commission was held at the Hjemkomst Center on December 15, 2021, at 5:00 PM.

1. Call to order The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

2. Roll call

Roll Call of the members was made as follows:

Board Member:	Siham Amedy	Present
Board Member:	Cani Adan	Present
3 rd Ward Council Member:	Deb White	Present
Board Member:	Shinwar Mayi	Present
Board Member:	MaKell Pauling-Normandin	Present
Board Member:	Ilene Cohen-Pearson	Present
Board Member:	Jenifer Troska	Present

3. Approval of Agenda/Minutes

The agenda and minutes were approved with a motion made by Deb White, seconded by Shinwar Mayi, and passed by unanimous consent.

4. Citizens to be heard

None

5. Law Enforcement Update

None

6. Guest Speaker – Anne Hoefgen, Executive Director, Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota

Shared info on programs and goals. Commissioners asked questions and discussed.

7. Guest Speaker – 2021 Human Rights Award Recipient - Hukun Dabar

Shared info on programs and goals. Commissioners asked questions and discussed.

8. Guest Speaker – 2021 Human Rights Award Recipient - Delores Gabbard

Shared info on programs and goals. Commissioners asked questions and discussed.

9. Subcommittee Updates

General subcommittee information provided and the Commission shared volunteer opportunities for the community. Updates from subcommittees were provided.

10. Land Acknowledgement

MaKell Pauling-Normandin made a motion for the Commission to adopt the land acknowledgement for reading before meetings and that it be sent to City Council with a recommendation that they adopt and read it before meetings as well, Ilene Cohen-Pearson seconded the motion, passed by unanimous consent.

11. Reports/Announcements/Upcoming Events

Ilene Cohen-Pearson shared efforts to solicit volunteers through email list.

12. New Business

Cani Adan suggested bringing in two guest speakers from a Somali organization for the January 2022 meeting. The Commission was in favor of this. Cani Adan will extend an invite.

The meeting adjourned at 5:58pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Joshua Huffman, HRC Staff Liaison

The proceedings of this meeting are digitally recorded and are available for public review.



**City of Moorhead
Human Rights Commission
Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2022 – 5:00PM
Hjemkomst Center**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Human Rights Commission was held at the Hjemkomst Center on January 19, 2022, at 5:00 PM.

1. Call to order The meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm.

2. Roll call

Roll Call of the members was made as follows:

Board Member:	Siham Amedy	Present
Board Member:	Cani Adan	Absent
3 rd Ward Council Member:	Deb White	Present
Board Member:	Shinwar Mayi	Absent
Board Member:	MaKell Pauling-Normandin	Present
Board Member:	Ilene Cohen-Pearson	Absent
Board Member:	Jenifer Troska	Absent

3. Approval of Agenda/Minutes

Moved to next meeting

4. Citizens to be heard

None

5. Law Enforcement Update

Sgt. Martin shared 2021 department statistics.

6. Guest Speaker – 2021 Human Rights Award Recipient – Allison Pillar

Shared info on programs and goals of the YWCA. Commissioners asked questions and discussed.

7. Guest Speaker – 2021 Human Rights Award Recipient – Rory Beil

Unable to attend, move to future meeting.

8. Reports/Announcements/Upcoming Events

Deb White shared appreciation for organizers of the Martin Luther King Jr. events in Fargo.

Staff liaison is unable to attend March 16 meeting, Commission decided to move March meeting to the 23rd to accommodate.

9. New Business

None

The meeting adjourned at 5:27pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Joshua Huffman, HRC Staff Liaison

The proceedings of this meeting are digitally recorded and are available for public review.

DRAFT

Agenda Item 5.

Human Rights Commission - Disclosure

Everyone is welcome to share their thoughts and concerns as we work together to make Moorhead a more welcome and inclusive community. The Human Rights Commission would like to advise those who participate in commission meetings of the Commissions role and authority in the community, as it may influence how we are able to respond.

Persons having human rights complaints are welcome to share their concerns at Commission meetings but must refrain from naming individuals. The Human Rights Commission does not have authority to address human rights complaints and we are not be able to respond directly regarding specific discrimination claims. The Commission is happy to assist with public education about human rights, fairness, equity and inclusion. We may also help direct individuals to resources. However, specific claims of discrimination should be referred to the Minnesota Department of Human Rights where the appropriate legal authority exists.



Moorhead Human Rights Commission Annual Report 2021

The purpose of the Commission is to secure for all persons, whether resident or visitor, equal opportunity in education, employment, housing, public accommodations, and public services and full participation for all Moorhead citizens in the affairs of this community.

Educational & Other Community Activities: In 2021, the Moorhead HRC focused on Education & Awareness, Local Partnerships & Public Relationships, and Leadership. Listed below are the educational and community activities that occurred in 2021.

- The Commission created subcommittees for Events, Awards, and Education & Outreach to plan and implement activities and events throughout the year and to better engage with the community.
- Commission held a community clean-up event on 20th St S on 6-12-21.
- Commission co-sponsored a Juneteenth event in Gooseberry Park on 6-19-21.
- The Commission sponsored FM Pride Week, hosted a table at Pride in the Park on 8-14-21 and walked in the Pride Parade on 8-15-21.
- The Commission sponsored Indigenous People’s Day events on 10-11-21.
- The Commission developed and adopted a land acknowledgement that will be read at the beginning of all meetings to recognize the land is an expression of gratitude and appreciation to those whose historical territory we reside on and a way of honoring the Indigenous people who have been living and working on the land form time immemorial.
- The Commission solicited nominations for Human Rights Awards. They awarded the 2021 Human Rights Awards to Allison Pillar, Delores Gabbard, Hukun Dabar, and Rory Beil. Awards were presented to the recipients at the City Council meeting on December 13, 2021.
- Guest Speakers:
 - 1-20-21 Kari Yates and Ahmed Shiil, 2020 Human Rights Award Recipients, shared information on the programs they work with.
 - 2-17-21 Ophir Gilad from OutFront Minnesota shared information on the organization’s LGBTQ+ advocacy.
 - 3-17-21 Yoke-Sim Gunaratne from Cultural Diversity Resources shared information on the organization’s programs.

Agenda Item 11.

- 4-21-21 Liz Johnson and Zaylore Stout of FairVote MN shared information on Rank Choice Voting. Michelle Rydz of High Plains Fair Housing shared information on the organization's programs.
- 6-16-21 Chelsea Diederich of FM Pride shared information on the 2021 Pride events.
- 7-21-21 Heather Keeler shared information on Indigenous People's Day event planning.
- 9-15-21 Jason McCoy from Clay County Public Health shared information on a proposed tobacco ordinance.
- 10-20-21 Hollie Mackey from Indigenous Association shared information on the organization's programs and goals.
- 11-17-21 Matour Alier from Moorhead Public Schools shared information on their equity and inclusion programs and goals.
- 12-15-21 Anne Hoefgen from Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota shared information on the organization's programs and goals. Hukun Dabar and Delores Gabbard, 2021 Human Rights Award Recipients, shared information on the programs they work with.

Commissioners

- Shinwar Mayi
- Cani Adan
- Deb White
- Siham Amedy
- Jenifer Troska
- MaKell Pauling-Normandin
- Ilene Cohen-Pearson

Membership Changes

- Commissioner Appointed – Jenifer Troska
- Commissioner Appointed – Siham Amedy
- Commissioner Resigned – Heather Keeler (elected to State office)

Commission Meetings Dates:

1. January 20, 2021
2. February 17, 2021
3. March 17, 2021
4. April 21, 2021
5. May 19, 2021
6. June 16, 2021
7. July 21, 2021
8. August 18, 2021
9. September 15, 2021
10. October 20, 2021
11. November 17, 2021

12. December 15, 2021

Minutes/videos of the meeting can be viewed at:

<http://cityofmoorhead.com/government/boards-commissions/human-rights-commission>

Prepared by: Joshua Huffman, HRC Staff Liaison

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NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

For further information contact:

Joshua Huffman
Moorhead Human Rights Commission Liaison
218.299.5375

2021 Human Rights Awards

Moorhead Human Rights Commission to award four individuals.

The Moorhead Human Rights Commission is issuing the 2021 Human Rights Awards to recognize significant contributions to human rights in our community. Recipients are:

Allison Pillar is being recognized in the Civic/Community category. Allison works for the YWCA Cass Clay and helps support social justice.

Delores Gabbard is being recognized in the Education category. Delores works for Moorhead Public Schools as a Native American liaison and works to meet the needs of Native youth in the community.

Hukun Dabar is being recognized in the Civic/Community category. Hukun leads for the Afro American Development Association and works with the New American community to help prevent the spread of Covid-19.

Rory Beil is being recognized in the Civic/Community category. Rory works for Clay County Public Health and with the New American community to help prevent the spread of Covid-19.

The awards will be presented by Moorhead Human Rights Commission at the Moorhead City Council Meeting on Monday, December 13, 2021 at 5:30pm at the Hjemkomst Center.

See attached award recipient bios.

Congratulations and thank you to the award recipients.

2021 Human Rights Awards

Excerpts from nomination forms received

Allison Pillar

Allison led the development and launch of the YWCA Cass Clay's first 14-day Equity Challenge, which is an educational program designed to help community members easily and conveniently build more effective social justice habits, particularly around issues of race, privilege, power, and domestic violence. She also facilitates the YWCA Cass Clay's Racial Justice Committee. The committee seeks to share resources with the community to promote further learning, support local initiatives that share a common vision for an anti-racist and multicultural society, and to campaign for social justice through statements and actions. Allison exemplifies values including integrity, creativity, and perseverance in the area of equity and human rights in both her personal and professional practices.

Delores Gabbard

Delores has worked as a Native American Liaison for Moorhead Public Schools for many years and as a volunteer in the community for Indigenous events. Delores has devoted her life to meeting the needs of Native youth in the community. This includes anything from educational programming to making sure our youth have warm coats, shoes, and school supplies. She connects with entire families, because students' needs are best met if the entire family's needs are met. She provides cultural opportunities for kids in the community and school district. She has spent hours personally sewing regalia for students and connecting kids to resources in the community. Her heart is huge and she does not turn anyone away who needs help.

Hukun Dabar

Hukun has been an advocate for New Americans in Fargo/Moorhead for the last six years and leads an immigrant owned nonprofit organization. He went the extra mile to assist the community during the pandemic. When the pandemic hit, Hukun brought together the New American organizations and their leaders and spearheaded the efforts to find resources for the New American community. COVID has disproportionately impacted the most vulnerable groups in our community, including immigrants and refugees. Hukun has been on the front line assisting New Americans affected by COVID in the Fargo/Moorhead area. Because of Hukun's leadership, New American organizations' staff and volunteers were able to get resources, distribute masks, deliver food, and raise prevention awareness to prevent the spread of COVID. His caring efforts and attitude during the pandemic response deserve to be applauded and recognized.

Rory Beil

Rory works for Clay County Public Health and was instrumental in helping to provide resources to the New American community during the pandemic. Rory worked to increase COVID awareness, helped to bridge language barriers by providing resources in New American languages, and assisted with programs that helped children successfully navigate their online schooling. Rory also helped with training peer specialists, raised vaccination awareness, and also increased mental health awareness for the New American community.