



**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING AGENDA
April 17, 2019 - 5:00 PM
City Hall Council Chambers**

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. **Roll call** _____
3. **Approval of Agenda/Minutes** _____
4. **Citizens to be heard** _____
5. **Guest Speaker - Leann Wallin - Fair Housing/Crime Free Multi-Housing** _____
6. **Commission's 2019 Annual Plan** _____
7. **New business** _____
 - A. May agenda planning _____
8. **Member Reports/Announcements** _____
 - A. Building Bridges - Cani Adan _____
9. **Upcoming events** _____

Upon request, accommodations for individuals with disabilities, language barriers, or other needs to allow participation in meetings will be provided. To arrange assistance, call the City Clerk's office at 218.299.5166 (voice) or 711 (TDD/TTY).

Visit our website at www.cityofmoorhead.com



**City of Moorhead
Human Rights Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2019 at 5:00 PM
City Hall Council Chambers**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Human Rights Commission was held in the City Hall Council Chambers on March 20, 2019, at 5:00 PM.

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

2. Roll call

Roll Call of the members was made as follows:

Board Member:	Nate Aalgaard	Present
Board Member:	Cani Adan	Present
3 rd Ward Council Member:	Deb White	Present
Board Member:	Shinwar Mayi	Absent
Board Member:	Makell Pauling Normandin	Present
Board Member:	Willard Yellow Bird	Absent

3. Approval of Agenda/Minutes

Agenda and minutes were approved with motions made by Deb White, seconded by Nate Aalgaard and passed by unanimous consent.

4. Citizens to be heard

No citizens were present.

5. Guest Speaker – Cassie Wiste – 2019 Welcoming Week

Cassie Wiste shared information on 2019 Welcoming Week planning. Meetings held the 2nd Wednesday of every month at noon at the Fargo Public Library.

Commissioners asked questions and discussed ways in which the HRC could be involved in the events.

6. 2019 Annual Plan

A. Survey results and discussion

Discussion on annual plan. Commissioners suggested inviting Leann Wallin to April meeting to discuss fair housing and inviting Jerry Christianson to the July meeting to discuss ADA issues.

Agenda Item 3.

Commissioners requested that bystander training/guest speaker be added as an educational activity to the plan.

Commission asked City staff to prepare a Fair Housing Proclamation to be included on the City Council agenda on 4-8-19.

7. Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing - Update

City staff liaison updated the Commission on the fulfillment of three motions made at the February meeting. No further follow-up is needed.

8. New business

No new business.

9. Member reports/Announcements

Commissioner Aalgaard shared information on a recent workshop held by Freedom Resource Center. Commissioner White thanked Commissioner Adan for his work with a solidarity event last weekend.

10. Upcoming events

Discussed upcoming diversity job fair, poverty simulation at Concordia, Newroz Celebration, Building Bridges Conference, "Home" movie and panel discussion, and Transgender Cultural Competency Training.

11. Adjourn

Nate Aalgaard made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Deb White, passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:59pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Joshua Huffman, HRC Staff Liaison

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

2019

ANNUAL WORK PLAN

MOORHEAD HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

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.





MOORHEAD HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

IN THE UNITED STATES, IT IS ILLEGAL TO DISCRIMINATE BASED ON:

- **RACE**
- **RELIGION**
- **CREED**
- **COLOR**
- **SEX**
- **AGE**
- **DISABILITY**
- **PREGNANCY**
- **FAMILIAL STATUS**
- **VETERAN STATUS**
- **NATIONAL ORIGIN**
- **CITIZENSHIP STATUS**
- **GENETIC INFORMATION**

**MINNESOTA LAW PROHIBITS DISCRIMINATION BASED ON THE FOLLOWING
ADDITIONAL CLASSIFICATIONS:**

- **MARITAL STATUS**
- **GENDER IDENTITY**
- **SEXUAL ORIENTATION**
- **RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE**
- **MEMBER OF LOCAL COMMISSION**

AREAS OF FOCUS – 2019

The Moorhead Human Rights Commission (HRC) has identified three areas of focus for 2019:

- Education & Awareness
- Local Partnerships & Public Relations
- Leadership

PURPOSE

The identified areas of focus will help the HRC to fulfill its purpose, which is to secure equal opportunity in the following categories:

- Education
- Employment
- Housing
- Public Accommodations
- Public Services

EDUCATION & AWARENESS

Sharing knowledge and advocating for basic human rights is one of the most important functions of a human rights commission. There are several opportunities for Moorhead's HRC to fulfill this function. In 2019, emphasis will be on following topics:

- Fair Housing
 - Host 1-2 fair housing events
- Equality & Equity
 - Invite speakers to commission meetings who will teach and promote equality and equity
 - Represent the HRC at various events (i.e., FM Pride in the Park, Pangea, etc.).
- Inclusivity
 - Participate in Welcoming Week for area immigrants and refugees
- Bystander Intervention
 - Host a training or guest speaker at HRC meeting

LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS & PUBLIC RELATIONS

To further promote human rights education and awareness, the Moorhead HRC will develop local partnerships and recognize area efforts to protect human rights. The Moorhead HRC will be both an advocate and an ally for human rights. To do this in 2019, the HRC will do the following:

- Host an awards recognition event honoring local human rights efforts
- Collaborate with other organizations working to protect human rights
- Begin making connections with Moorhead schools to create a partnership

Agenda Item 6.

- **Make itself visible to the community (i.e., supporting/attending events, volunteering)**
- **Strengthen communication & identify common goals with others in the community**

LEADERSHIP

The HRC will be responsive, creative, motivated, and thoughtful as a leader for human rights in Moorhead. It will provide direction and help to connect people and organizations to strengthen human rights efforts and results in the community. The Moorhead HRC will be supportive of people experiencing discrimination. It will engage with and educate the community about human rights issues, and instruct where to go when issues arise. In addition to activities previously mentioned, the HRC will bring proclamations forward to the Mayor & City Council for important recognitions (e.g., Fair Housing, Pride, International Human Rights Day).

DRAFT

2019 FOCUS AREAS & ACTIVITIES - DRAFT				
	Education & Awareness	Local Partnerships & Public Relations	Leadership	Regular Business
January				
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Black History Month 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elect Chair & Vice Chair Annual Report
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Women's History Month 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cassie Wiste – Welcoming Week 2019
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair Housing Seminar Event Fair Housing Month 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner w/High Plains Fair Housing Center to provide an educational seminar? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proclamation to Council to declare April as Moorhead's Fair Housing Month (2nd priority for proclamations) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leann Wallin – Fair Housing
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Older Americans Month Asian American/Pacific Islander Month Jewish American Heritage Month 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guest Speaker?
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LGBTQ Pride Month 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proclamation to Council to declare June 20 as Moorhead's Refugee Day (3rd priority for proclamations) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guest Speaker?
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disability Independence Day July 26 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jerry Christianson, Freedom Resource Center
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information booth at FM Pride in the Park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with FM Pride Collective for booth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate/walk in parade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation on CDBG 5 year plan
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hispanic Heritage Month begins Sept. 15 National Welcoming Week 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in Welcoming Week Define criteria and details for Human Rights Recognition Award 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guest Speaker?
October		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solicit nominations for Human Rights Awards 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2019 Annual Plan development
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Native American Heritage Month 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solicit nominations for Human Rights Award 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2019 Annual Plan development
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Human Rights Day Dec. 10 (Tuesday) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human Rights Awards Recognition Event 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proclamation to Council to celebrate December 10 as Moorhead Human Rights Day (1st priority for proclamations) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2019 Present Annual Draft Plan to Council
TBD				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission training (City Attorney)

DRAFT

Building Bridges Hosted by Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota April 9-10 2019.

Introduction.

The annual two-day building bridges conference brings together service providers, educators, and community leaders who work with refugee families. As our communities become more diverse, a strong network of collaborators is needed.

Updates.

There were four speakers on the stage for the two days building bridges conference.

Cari Eastman- an independent researcher, writer, and educator from Sioux Falls. Cari Eastman's doctoral studies focused largely on development communication, with a primary focus on media and civil society — particularly in relation to the immigration debate. Her dissertation research focused on public reception and understanding of border and immigration issues, particularly those involving the U.S.-Mexico border that were influenced by media coverage of civil society organizations active in that area.

Cari-through-out her presentation, she was focusing on immigration issues at the Southern border, DACA, refugees and asylum seekers. She was using a statistical data to verify facts, and myth.

Refugees at the most extremely vetted immigrant that arrived in the United States and has been in the camp for almost 10-20 years.

The nearest court is in Bloomington MN where asylum seekers can apply for status to remain at United State.

Her speech was also focusing on crisis that are the southern border. Children that are taking apart from their parents, asylum seekers that are coming from El salvador, Guatemala, and Nicaragua.

Cari said, “ We are a nation of law, There is nothing illegal about crossing into the United State and asking for asylum seeker!

Helen Thorpe. was born in London to Irish parents. She is the author of three books, Just Like Us, Soldier Girls, and The New-comers. Her books are works of narrative nonfiction that document in a human and intimate way the lives of immigrants, refugees and veterans of foreign conflicts.

Agenda Item 8.A.

Helen went to Democratic of Congo, where she visited in the Congo refugee camp, education fields, hospitals, market and many areas around Congo country. She was so emotional to see the hard life that are living by the Congolese people in the refugee camp. She wrote a book called, "The Newcomers," on her visit to Congo.

Lutheran Social Services of North Dakota, received the most refugee immigrant from Congo, followed by Burma, and Karen.

Dr. David Shlim. is author of over 40 original research papers and has written over 20 chapters in textbooks on travel medicine. He was a pioneer in travel medicine research on typhoid fever, hepatitis, altitude illness and other serious traveling ailments. He helped discover a new protozoan pathogen (Cyclospora) that causes diarrhea in humans.

Dr. Shlim co-wrote "Medicine and Compassion," a book that offers advice from a Tibetan Buddhist lama on methods of training in compassion for health care professionals. His speech was mainly about compassion.

Basel Mousselly. is Program Manager for Detention Visitation at Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, Baltimore, Mary-land area. His position requires managing annual site visit schedules for assigned sites and evaluating Reception and Placement and Matching Grant post-arrival affiliates' programs to analyze progress and capacity.

Basel discussed through-out his speech about detention centers in across 34 states in America. He said, almost 70% of the detention centers is owned and run by private companies. Every adult will pay \$134 per day and a family will pay for \$340 and the government pays all those huge amount for the taxpayers. Their life is so hard at the centers-no quality standard life and most cases they work farming and manufacturing factories at the centers which pays \$1 per day.

His organization helped the people who come out from the detention centers to integrate into the community, provide services and support to stabilize their lives.