

1 **Human Rights, Inclusion and Engagement Commission**
2 **Meeting Minutes**
3 **DRAFT – August 17, 2022 - DRAFT**
4
5

6 **Commissioners Present:** Amanda Becker, Etienne Djevi, Richard James, Kathryn
7 Macomber, and Laura Palmquist
8

9 **Youth Commissioners:** Beverly Yiling Xie
10

11 **Commissioners Absent:** Keith Allen, Paul Haas, David Sindiga, and Adepeju Solarin
12 (excused)
13

14 **Staff Present:** Thomas Brooks, Equity, and Inclusion Manager
15

16 **Call to Order/Roll Call**
17

18 The Human Rights, Inclusion, and Engagement Commission (HRIEC) meeting was called to
19 order at 6:30 p.m.
20

21 **Approve Agenda**
22

23 Commissioner Macomber moved and Commissioner Djevi seconded a motion to approve the
24 Agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.
25

26 **Public Comment on Items Not on Agenda**
27

28 Ms. Kathy Ramundt, Do Good Roseville, explained she was at the meeting to tell the
29 Commission about the Festival of Change event Do Good Roseville is participating in. She
30 reviewed what the Festival of Change is about. She explained she was excited because she
31 believed this is the first-time numerous faith communities are joining together on an initiative.
32 She explained all of the churches participating will be there talking about the different initiatives
33 each one has going on for racial injustices. She indicated there will be a lot of entertainment with
34 food trucks. This will be the first of many different events. She also reviewed with the
35 Commission other programs and organizations the faith communities are working on and she
36 noted they came up with an idea called Uplift Student Grants that the faith communities and Do
37 Good Roseville will be raising money to create uplift grants for students. The grants are going to
38 be small grants given out to students and all the students need to do is to be nominated which the
39 small amount of money will make a trajectory difference in their lives. She explained this is for
40 BIPOC students to show that not just the A Plus students and the white students that are always
41 getting everything, it is for BIPOC students where just a small amount of money could make a
42 difference. She indicated there is a way for the Commission to participate, it is on Friday,
43 September 9th from 5 pm to 8pm and Saturday, September 10th from 10 am to 5 pm. They are
44 mainly looking for greeters. She was asking for everyone to sign up for a half hour shift.
45

46 Commissioner Djevi indicated he would like to volunteer for the event on Friday. He asked
47 beyond the grant if there was any way to connect the student to people in the community for a
48 mentorship.

49
50 Ms. Ramundt thought that was a great idea and something Do Good Roseville can work on but
51 she thought was seeing this is the first time this is being done, they do not really know what kids
52 will come up or people will come up with for reasons of needing the funds. She also thought
53 there might be a certain need that is not being met so instead of a grant the committee could
54 work on that need. They may be identifying needs for kids that are a gap in what the community
55 is doing but they could certainly talk about that idea.

56
57 Commissioner Becker liked that idea as well. She indicated a number of years ago she received
58 a grant but it was really mostly connections with people in the film community and even just
59 having coffee with someone for an hour was great.

60
61 Ms. Ramundt explained she liked the idea that it is a nomination because it tells the student that
62 someone really believes in them to nominate them. The nomination process is simple, it is
63 asking for a story and why the money would help the student. She noted this is open to any
64 student in the Roseville School area or living in the District. It is easy for people to get the grant.

65
66 Vice Chair James explained he would push for not stressing but making the arts a part of this as
67 well. He thought that would open it up to the less academically gifted students.

68
69 Ms. Ramundt indicated this grant has been left completely open at this point with no criteria as
70 far as what would qualify or what would not qualify for the grant.

71
72 Youth Commissioner Xie explained through the school system a student can already apply for
73 ACT fee waivers if the student has met a certain criteria and also there are lunch fee waivers
74 available if a certain criteria are met so those resources are already available. She asked how this
75 grant add to that. She also suggested maybe along with the grant including some sort of
76 scholarship for people going to college.

77
78 Ms. Ramundt explained as far as the existing programs, the committee can put the resources
79 available when looking at the grants to use but suggesting alternatives to the grant if there are
80 better resources available. The grant may cover some other needs that have never been thought
81 of before. As far as a scholarship, it really depends on how much funding they get.

82
83 Youth Commissioner Xie asked how Do Good Roseville plans on spreading the word about this
84 event to the schools because from the feedback she has heard from students and teachers over the
85 past school year, one of the concerns was that the communication between admin and the
86 teachers and students have been pretty bad. The teachers, a lot of time, do not get what they
87 need to know from the admin on time. She thought that was something to keep in mind.

88
89 Ms. Ramundt explained they can certainly help with the communication in the schools. She
90 asked if there are other ways to reach out to students.

91
92 Youth Commissioner Xie knew that students are in clubs after school and that there is a Black
93 Student Union and a Hispanic Student Union, there is a Hmong Student Cultural group and those
94 would be great resources because a lot of kids are in those and from there they can spread the
95 information to their peers and their classes.

96
97 Ms. Ramundt indicated she will mention those groups to her contacts.

98
99 Commissioner Djevi indicated poster size signs could also be made and put at the entrances to
100 the schools and libraries.

101
102 Ms. Ramundt indicated this information will also go in the Do-Good Roseville newsletter as well
103 as the City newsletter.

104
105 **Commission Response to Community Issues**

106
107 **Approve Minutes**

108
109 **a. July 20, 2022 Human Rights, Inclusion and Engagement Commission**

110
111 Commissioner Macomber moved and Commissioner James seconded a motion to approve the
112 July 20, 2022 Human Rights, Inclusion and Engagement Commission meeting minutes as
113 presented. Motion passed unanimously.

114
115 **Youth Commissioner Report**

116
117 **a. Recognize Outgoing Commissioner Xie**

118
119 Youth Commissioner Xie read a letter she wrote about her history with the HRIEC and indicated
120 she will be leaving the Commission.

121
122 Chair Palmquist thanked Youth Commissioner Xie for all of her work she has done on the
123 Commission as well as her dedication to the community and school.

124
125 Vice-Chair James explained he could always count on Youth Commissioner Xie to tell him the
126 truth and contributing ideas on all of the sub-groups she was on with him. He hoped Youth
127 Commission Xie will continue to do that and making sure that her voice is heard.

128
129 Commissioner Becker thanked Youth Commissioner Xie for making sure her voice was heard
130 and she appreciated that. It takes a courageous person to make sure they speak up and to be
131 heard. She hoped that it is taken forward throughout life.

132
133 Commissioner Djevi indicated Youth Commissioner Xie has made his heart feel really happy
134 and her time on the Commission has been a good time. As a group he felt they have brought her
135 from a point of uncertainty to a point of confidence. He had no doubt that she will continue to be

136 the voice of the voiceless. She has been the voice of the voiceless and the one thing that he
137 really appreciates so much about her is her thoughts about right and wrong, no matter who does
138 it or says it and that is one thing he admires about her. He thanked her for giving the
139 Commission and the community as well as to the school system.

140
141 Commissioner Macomber explained if Youth Commissioner Xie needed support letters she can
142 come to them.

143
144 **New Business**

145
146 **a. MAC Update from Chair Palmquist**

147
148 Chair Palmquist provided a recap of MAC meetings and projects.

149
150 **b. Debrief – Community Event Participation**

151
152 Vice-Chair James indicated he wore his badge to the Night to Unit event in his
153 neighborhood and he talked to people he did not know, which was not easy for him,
154 but having the badge helped him to talk about the Commission and what the
155 Commission does. He reviewed a few discussions he had including homelessness in
156 the community and sex trafficking in the community. He indicated he felt good
157 talking to his neighbors in the community about the Commission because many did
158 not know the HRIEC even existed. He hoped the Rice Larpenteur Festival will be
159 like that where the Commission can reach out and talk to people.

160
161 Commissioner Djevi thanked Vice-Chair James for his report and he thought it kind
162 of goes to some of the needs that they have been hoping to have for quite some time.
163 The question for this group going forward is going to be how do they create more
164 opportunities like this for Commissioners to be in the community and meet people
165 and get ideas like this that can be used in the Commission.

166
167 Chair Palmquist indicated she was excited that the Commission is back to doing in
168 person events along with Do Good Roseville doing their presentations again. She
169 thought it would be a good idea to have a representative from the Commission to go
170 to the events to talk to people before and after the events and mingle and spend time
171 with people in the community. She hoped this will create more natural opportunities
172 to host events.

173
174 Vice-Chair James thought there would be an advantage to going into, asking churches
175 help them to set up a community listening meeting. He thought the churches are a
176 logical starting point. He thought that as a part of community outreach, that might be
177 something the Commission does or think about doing. It does not mean the entire
178 Commission needs to be there but a representative could go and take notes and
179 participate.

180

181 Commissioner Djevi thought the Commission could try to plan on having
182 Commissioners attend major events in the community and bringing information back
183 to the rest of the Commission for discussion.

184
185 Mr. Brooks thought there will be a lot of opportunities coming up where
186 Commissioners can participate. He indicated he could push that information out but
187 would need some commitment from Commissioners to participate. Commissioners
188 are also welcome to join staff at the events as well.

189
190 Mr. Brooks explained pointed out that the Police Department is releasing a homeless
191 webpage. He indicated it is really difficult to get the message out about what the City
192 is doing with homelessness because every situation is so nuanced and personal.
193 Between all of the City Departments and Commissions there are multiple interactions
194 with the homeless people on a daily basis. If these individuals are not in some sort of
195 a stable housing situation or even a temporary housing situation it is likely because of
196 the individuals choosing. The City definitely has the ability to get community
197 resources to get them into some sort of housing and get them connected with some
198 sort of job as well as medical help. This is something staff continues to work on and
199 is definitely not unique to Roseville.

200
201 Commissioner Macomber indicated she used to work in extension which was a part
202 of university outreach that some people knew of and she wore her nametag whenever
203 she was at work all the time and out in the community. She indicated she intended to
204 do that for the Commission as well. She agreed with Vice-Chair James that it invites
205 conversation.

206
207 Youth Commissioner Xie explained speaking of events, she knew that Roseville
208 Puppet Wagon the last two shows of the year are usually pretty big. She noted last
209 years she went to the last two shows and the Parks Commission had a table there and
210 she suggested the HRIEC may want to get a table there this year as well. She thought
211 that was a pretty good place to connect with people.

212
213 Chair Palmquist indicated she could work on pulling a list of events from the website
214 into an excel spreadsheet to send to staff to disburse for Commissioners to pick which
215 events they wanted to be at or if maybe a table could be put at the event as well.

216
217 **c. Work Plan Updates and Discussion**

218
219 Mr. Brooks updated the Commission on the Essay Contest information he is
220 providing to the schools. He noted a meeting has been set up with administration. He
221 indicated he will keep the Commission updated on what was discussed.

222
223 Vice-Chair James indicated he would like to go to a faculty meeting and giving a
224 five-minute presentation about the essay. He would like to ask the faculty to

225 encourage their students to participate in the essay contest and the reason why. He
226 thought that was a way to bring it to everyone’s attention.

227
228 Commissioner Djevi explained regarding the Rosefest Parade the question would be
229 when the Commission should start determining what two communities that may be in
230 the parade next year and start doing the engagement with them.

231
232 Vice-Chair James explained he has not had a sub-group meeting for proclamations
233 but he will have one before the next meeting.

234
235 Commissioner Djevi thought in the past the Commission has discussed picking a few
236 proclamations to highlight as opposed to trying to do all of them because that can be a
237 little bit overwhelming. He suggested the sub-committee meet and try to propose a
238 main proclamation and maybe a cycle of recognition for every year.

239
240 Chair Palmquist indicated for youth engagement she will be working on an excel
241 spreadsheet with events listed for Commissioners to sign up for to attend them.

242
243 Mr. Brooks reviewed with the Commission what staff is doing to try to recruit
244 students for Youth Commissioners.

245
246 Commissioner Becker updated the Commission on Community Outreach being done.

247
248 The Commission discussed reimbursing Commission Becker for the items she
249 previously purchased for events.

250

251 **Other New Business or Reports**

252 **a. Staff Updates**

253 Equity and Inclusion Manager Brooks reported on the following:

- 254 • SREAP Updates
- 255 • Commission Recruitment
- 256 • Rice Larpenteur Block Party Saturday 8/13/22, 11am to 3 pm
 - 257 ○ Renter Engagement on Proposed Tenant Notification Ordinance
- 258 • Festival for Change Event hosted at Roseville Lutheran Church 9/9-9/10/22
- 259 • Added Karen Martyrs’ Day Proclamation at 8/8/22 Council meeting

260

261 The Commission discussed Youth Commissioner recruitment including a possible recruitment
262 club in the school system.

263

264 **Announcements**

265

266 **Future Agenda Items**

267 **a.** MAC update from Chair Palmquist

268 **b.** Community Outreach and Engagement update from Commissioner Becker

269 **c.** Rosefest Parade

270 **d. Community Visioning**

271

272 **Adjournment**

273

274 Commissioner James moved and Commissioner Macomber seconded a motion adjourn. Motion
275 passed unanimously.

276

277 Chair Palmquist adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

278

279 Respectfully submitted,

280

281 Sue Osbeck

282 *TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*