



## Human Relations Commission Agenda

7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

Thursday, July 8, 2021

Jack Powell Conference Room – City Hall

25 Center Street

Vermillion, South Dakota 57069

1. **Roll Call**
2. **Adoption of the Agenda**
3. **Approval of the Minutes**
  - a. May 6, 2021
4. **Visitors to be Heard**
5. **Old Business**
  - a. Discussion of Community Education/Outreach Planning.
6. **New Business**
  - a. Land Acknowledgement Statement.
  - b. Discussion of definition of “Sex” under law.
  - c. Discussion of Home Rule Charter & other Municipal HRCs.
  - d. Discussion of addition of VHRC Line Item.
7. **Adjourn**

Access the Human Relations Commission Agenda on the web – [www.vermillion.us](http://www.vermillion.us)

**Addressing the Commission:** Persons addressing the Commission shall be recognized. Please raise your hand to be recognized and state your name and address.

**a. Items Not on the Agenda** Members of the public may speak under Visitors to Be Heard on any topic NOT on the agenda. Remarks are limited to 5 minutes and no decision will be made at this time.

**b. Agenda Items:** Public testimony will be taken at the beginning of each agenda item, after the subject has been announced by the Mayor and explained by staff. Any citizen who wishes may speak one time for 5 minutes on each agenda item. Public testimony will then be closed and the topic will be given to the governing body for possible action. At this point, only commission members and staff may discuss the current agenda item unless a commission member moves to allow another person to speak and there is unanimous consent from the commission. Questions from commission members, however, may be directed to the public through the presiding officer at any time.

**Meeting Assistance:** The City of Vermillion fully subscribes to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you desire to attend this public meeting and are in need of special accommodations, please notify the City Manager's Office at 677-7050 at least 3 working days prior to the meeting so appropriate auxiliary aids and services can be made available.

As a courtesy to others, we ask that cellular phones and pagers be turned off during the meeting.

Unapproved Minutes  
Human Relations Commission  
Thursday, May 6, 2021 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Human Relations Commission was called to order via Zoom on Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: Shannon Cole, Wendy Hess, Jordan Bonstrom, Jerry Yutrzenka, Brenda Fergen, Alexis Oskolkoff, Bentou Kamara

Absent: None

Staff present: James Purdy, Assistant City Manager

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda with two additions made by Hess, seconded by Petersen. Roll call: Cole-Y, Hess-Y, Bonstrom-Y, Oskolkoff-Y, Yutrzenka-Y, Kamara-Y. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of the Minutes

3a. Yutrzenka moved to approve the November 5, 2020 minutes, seconded by Bonstrom. Roll call: Cole-Y, Hess-Y, Bonstrom-Y, Oskolkoff-Y, Yutrzenka-Y, Kamara-Y. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Visitors to be Heard

4a. None

5. Old Business

- a. Commission Transition
- b. Land Acknowledgement Statement

5a. The Commissioners did a round of introductions, and welcomed Oskolkoff and Kamara to the group. The Commission discussed the need to elect officers for the upcoming year. Motion by Yutrzenka to nominate Cole as chair and Hess as vice-chair, seconded by Fergen. Roll call: Cole-Y, Hess-Y, Bonstrom-Y, Oskolkoff-Y, Yutrzenka-Y, Kamara-Y. Motion carried unanimously.

5b. The Commission noted to the new commissioners that they have been asked by the City Council to come up with this statement. Oskolkoff noted that the South Dakota Shakespeare Festival just finished their land acknowledgment statement that will be used this summer. Oskolkoff will forward that to the group so it can be compared to the draft statement the Commission has been working on. Commissioners noted that USD has been utilizing theirs, and that it has been used at larger events like convocations. The Commissioners noted that it will be important to think about when and how the City would be utilizing theirs.

6. New Business

a. Future Planning

6a. The Commission discussed meeting dates and times. The Commission will continue meeting on the first Thursday of every other month at 7:00. The committee will meet July 8<sup>th</sup>, rather than July 1<sup>st</sup>, to avoid conflicts related to the holiday weekend. The meeting schedule was laid out as follows: July 8<sup>th</sup>, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, November 4<sup>th</sup>, January 6<sup>th</sup>, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, and May 5<sup>th</sup>.

The following project ideas for 2021-2022 were stated:

- Land acknowledgement statement
- Updating ordinance based on EEOC definition of sex
- Municipal Equality Index
- A budget for printing and/or advertising educational events

Commissioners will bring their ideas to the next meeting. The meeting will be held in-person with a virtual option.

7. Adjourn

Moved by Fergen to adjourn, seconded by Bonstrom. Roll call: Cole-Y, Hess-Y, Bonstrom-Y, Oskolkoff-Y, Yutrzenka-Y, Kamara-Y. Motion carried unanimously at 8:31.

Shannon Cole, Chair

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Vermillion Human Relations Commission

## Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are on the lands of the Oceti Sakowin and Omaha Tribal Nations and we thank them as the past, present, and future stewards of this land.

We extend thanks and gratitude to our partners and sponsors who have contributed to producing this season of the South Dakota Shakespeare Festival. The SDSF would not be possible without the generous contributions of these sponsors.

### Show Producer

Gannett Foundation  
South Dakota Humanities Council

### Patron

City of Vermillion  
Coffee Cup Travel Plaza  
Current 94.3  
Dakota Hospital Foundation  
Sanford Vermillion

South Dakota Arts Council  
United Way of Vermillion  
USD Upward Bound  
Vermillion Area Chamber &  
Development Company

### Underwriter

National Music Museum  
South Dakota Public Broadcasting  
USD College of Arts and Sciences  
USD College of Fine Arts

USD Department of Theatre  
Vermilion Rotary  
Greg & Susan Huckabee  
Steve & Mary Waller

### Bard

Black Hills Playhouse  
First Bank & Trust  
First Dakota National Bank  
Print Source  
South Dakota Community Foundation  
Walmart Foundation, Vermillion  
USD Department of English  
USD Marketing, Communication  
and University Relations

Carol & Tom Geu, *in honor of  
Chaya Gordon-Bland*  
Joel Held, *in honor & memory of  
Ronald Leeper*  
Rich & Nell Holland  
Evelyn & George Schlenker  
Betty Smith  
Joe Stollenwerk  
Susan & Doug Tuve, *in honor of  
Chaya Gordon-Bland*



*Please recycle your playbills at any of the exit receptacles*

We cannot focus on our future without first recognizing our past. It's important to recognize that USD exists on the ancestral lands of Native American tribes whose heritage and culture continue to enrich our community to this day.

**It is with profound respect that  
we acknowledge the indigenous  
peoples of this land.**

