



HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 5:30 PM
Meeting Room in the Charles S. Crandall Center at City
Hall, 540 West Hills Circle
Commissioners: Jessica Bjore, Edgar Esquivel,
Jim Gunderson, Jennifer Hansen, Mustafe Ismael
Sherry Hill and Julia Seykora

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Approval of Agenda

5. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes

5.1. Minutes - January 14th OHRC Meeting

6. Commissioner's Comments

7. Items of Discussion

7.1. HomeTown Credit Union Donation

7.2. Recap - 2025 MLK Jr Day Event

7.3. Recap - OCLA Cultural & Diversity Event - February 11th

7.4. 2025 Activities

7.4.1. Owatonna Community Connect - April 30th

7.4.2. 2025 Downtown Thursdays

7.4.3. 2025 Welcome Week

7.4.4. Steele County Health Fair 2025 - September 10th

8. Public Comments

9. Adjournment

**Owatonna Human Rights Commission
Minutes – January 14, 2025 – DRAFT COPY**

The Owatonna Human Rights Commission (OHRC) met on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, in the Meeting Room of the Charles S. Crandall Center. Chairman Jim Gunderson called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. Commissioner Hansen took roll call: Commissioners Jim Gunderson, Julia Seykora, Jessica Bjore, Edgar Esquivel, Jennifer Hansen, and Administrative Coordinator Clawson. Commission Members Sherry Hill and Mustafe Ismael were unable to attend

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Gunderson welcomed everyone to the meeting. Commissioner Hansen made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Commissioner Seykora seconded the motion, all members present voted aye in approval.

After review of Minutes of the last meeting, December 10, 2025, Commissioner Bjore made a motion to approve as presented, Commissioner Hansen seconded the motion, all members present voted aye in approval.

ITEM OF DISCUSSION - 2025 MLK Jr Day Event Monday, January 20, 2025

There was a brief review of plans for the 2025 MLK Jr Day event:

Venue – Steele County History Center – Commissioners Gunderson and Seykora will complete site tour prior to the event to verify AV equipment, want to confirm microphones and speaker system.

Speaker – Seema Pothini – Commissioner Seykora confirmed all set, and she will do the speaker introduction. Introduction will include why OHRC believes it is important for her to speak again this year. 2024 was to recognize the value of your strengths and this year will be to become an ally.

Caterer: Plaza Morena Campestre Grill will begin set up at 11:30 a.m., Jose's son will be onsite to provide the beef and chicken taco bar.

Co-Sponsors: Rainbowatonna – have received \$100 co-sponsorship payment

AGE – Commissioner Seykora will follow-up

Riverland Community College – Commissioner Gunderson will follow-up

Everyone asked to promote the event over the next few days. Currently, 29 pre-registered and anticipate will be over 100 within the week OHRC Commissioners are reminded to wear OHRC shirt and nametags during the event. The OHRC Brochure and member cards will also be available.

ITEM OF DISCUSSION – 2025 OHRC Activities

Commissioners asked to mark their calendars for these 2025 activities with OHRC participation. Additional information/discussion will be held during the February OHRC Meeting.

- 1) February 11th – OCLA Cultural & Diversity at the Library after lunch. Commissioners Gunderson, Bjore and Hansen plan to attend.
- 2) April 30th - Owatonna Community Connect at Four Seasons – will receive information from Ellie at the Community Bank.
- 3) Downtown Thursdays – first Thursday of each month – June to September.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:33 p.m., Commissioner Hansen made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Esquivel seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned. The next OHRC Meeting is planned for Tuesday, February 11th at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Clawson, Administrative Coordinator

February 4, 2025

Owatonna Human Rights Commission
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RECEIVED
FEB 07 REC'D
CITY OF OWATONNA

Dear Owatonna, Human Rights Commission,

Each year members of HomeTown Credit Union's Board of Directors have the opportunity to select a local non-profit they would like to support with a financial contribution. For 2025 our Director, Ethan Cords, has selected the Owatonna Human Rights Commission as his recipient. On behalf of everyone at HomeTown, I am pleased to share that HTCUCU will be making a donation of \$500 to your organization.

We would like to present this donation to your organization at our annual meeting. This event will be held at Torey's Restaurant and Bar, 208 North Cedar Ave, Owatonna, MN 55060 on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 5:30 pm.

If this date works, please RSVP by phone or email to 507-455-6725 or areyna@hometowncu.coop with the name of the individual(s) who will be attending by Friday, March 7, 2025. If this date does not work, we will be happy to send this donation to your organization following our annual meeting.

In order to receive this donation, we will need a current W9 form to have on file as a recipient of funds from HomeTown. This form can be sent to areyna@hometowncu.coop.

Thank you for the service you provide for our community!

Sincerely,

Aunde' Reyna
HR Administrator