

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

October 12, 2015

5:30 P.M.

**2nd Floor County Committee Room
Governmental Center, Traverse City, MI 49684**

Posted: 10/9/15

Board Members:

**Lee Hornberger, Chair
Steve Mentzer, Vice Chair
Mattias Johnson
Barbara McClellan
Taylor Nash
Laura Nerone
Patricia Nugent
Susan Odgers
Jodi Stinnet**

Information and minutes are available from the Human Resources Office, Governmental Center, 400 Boardman, Traverse City, MI 49684 922-4481. TDD: 922-4412. If you are planning to attend and you have a disability requiring any special assistance at the meeting, please notify the Assistant City Manager, by noon of the above meeting date.

AGENDA

- 1. ROLL CALL**
- 2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2015 REGULAR MEETING**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 4. OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. Traverse City Homeless Population Update
 - b. Discussion regarding the Fall Education Forum
- 5. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. Discuss 2015 Sarah Hardy Award
- 6. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**
- 7. ADJOURNMENT**

Next regular meeting date: November 9, 2015 @ 5:30 p.m.
Agenda Items (w/back up material) and Committee Chair Reports MUST BE submitted to Ex Officio, Kristine Bosley (kbosley@traversecitymi.gov) no later than noon, Wednesday, November 4, 2015. Commissioner Packets to be emailed November 6, 2015.

The City of Traverse City does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. Penny Hill, Assistant City Manager, 400 Boardman Avenue, Traverse City, 49684, 922-4440, TDD 922-4412, has been designated to coordinate compliance with non-discrimination requirements contained in section 35.107 of the Department of Justice regulations. Information concerning the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the rights provided thereunder, are available from the ADA Coordinator.

**MINUTES
TRAVERSE CITY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2015
5:30 P.M.
County Committee Room
Governmental Center, 2nd Floor
400 Boardman Avenue
Traverse City, Michigan 49684**

PRESENT: Commissioners Hornberger, Mentzer, Johnson, McClellan, Nerone, Nugent, and Stinnet
ABSENT: Commissioner Odgers and Nash
STAFF PRESENT: Kristine Bosley

- 1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 10, 2015 REGULAR MEETING**
Motion by Commissioner Mentzer, second by Commissioner Nugent to approve the August 10, 2015 meeting minutes, with an amendment to correct the attendance of Commissioner Odgers
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT**
Ayla, foreign exchange student attending her first meeting
- 3. OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. Traverse City Homeless Population**
Reviewed comments from suggested changes from the City Clerk's Office. K. Bosley to revise changes and submit to County Clerk. Approved wording to be presented to Commission
 - b. Discussion regarding the Fall Educational Forum**
Discussion ensued about the Fall Educational Forum
 - Fall Forum - Educational to the public.
 - Spring – Call to Action (follow up from Fall Forum)
- 4. NEW BUSINESS**
It was noted that Martin Luther King Day is next month, with the Human Rights Commission to select the Sara Hardy Award winner.
- 5. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**
Commissioner McClellan
Commissioner Nugent
Commissioner Stinnet
- 6. ADJOURNMENT**
Motion by Commissioner Metzger, second by Commissioner Johnson to adjourn.
The meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Kristine Bosley, Secretary

Date

**Resolution Recognizing the
Rights of People Experiencing Homelessness**

- Because, the City recognizes the need for and has cooperated with local non-profits and other agencies for the purpose of providing supportive housing to people experiencing homelessness, through housing and services intended to help those at risk to live stable, productive lives including outreach, engagement, medical care, behavioral health care, case management and life skills training; and
- Because, the City of Traverse City has recognized the severe shortage of and need for temporary emergency housing and affordable housing within the City; and
- Because, the Traverse City community's generous support for those experiencing homelessness, has been significant and has included, among other things, 1) the provision of food and shelter for those experiencing homeless by local churches and places of worship during winter months; 2) the provision of daily breakfast for those experiencing homelessness by the Central United Methodist Church; 3) the provision of monitoring and administrative services for Safe Harbor by Goodwill Industries; 4) the provision of volunteer support and services to Safe Harbor by more than 2,100 volunteers; 5) the provision by the Father Fred Foundation of free clothing, food and services for those experiencing homeless and persons needing assistance; 6) the provision of assistance to those experiencing homelessness by the Goodwill Inn 365 days a year including bed nights, case management, clothing, bus passes and food; and 7) the provision of supportive services such as showers, laundry and daytime protection from cold weather five days a week with 7,054 visits last year by Jubilee House/Grace Episcopal; and
- Because, the Traverse City Human Rights Commission, an advisory board appointed by the City Commission, mission statement is to strive to ensure human dignity through advocacy, education, negotiation and information ensuring understanding and respect among all; and
- Because, The Traverse City Human Rights Commission adopted a Resolution Recognizing the Rights of Homeless Persons at its meeting of July 13, 2015; and
- Because, the rights, privacy and property of those experiencing homelessness shall be adequately safeguarded under the policies of the City of Traverse City; now therefore, be it
- Resolved, that the City Commission for the City of Traverse City adopts this Resolution Recognizing the Rights of those experiencing homelessness for the purpose of

ensuring the human dignity of and respect for all those experiencing homelessness in Traverse City by recognizing the rights of those experiencing homelessness.

As such, the City of Traverse City respects that every person experiencing homelessness should be able to:

1. Access basic requirements necessary for sustaining life, including shelter, sanitation, medical care, clothing and food;
2. Move freely in public places in the same manner as other persons without harassment or intimidation;
3. Have equal opportunities for employment;
4. Receive emergency medical care;
5. Exercise equal civic privileges, including the right to register to vote and the right to vote;
6. Have personal information protected;
7. Have a reasonable expectation of privacy in his or her personal property;
8. Receive equal treatment by state, county and municipal agencies; and
9. Allow for access to resources for housing and supportive housing.

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted at the November 2, 2015, Regular Meeting of the City Commission held in the Commission Chambers, Governmental Center, 400 Boardman Avenue, Traverse City, MI 49684.

Benjamin C. Marentette, MMC, City Clerk