



**MINUTES OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
HJEMKOMST CENTER AUDITORIUM - 202 1ST AVE N.  
March 18, 2026 - 5:00 PM**

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

Roll call of the members was made as follows:

Present (5): Evett Ellis, AnnaPoorna Rajesh, Jenifer Cannon, Jennifer Aranda, Sebastian McDougall

Present Not Voting (0):

Absent (2): Siham Amedy, Trenton Gerads

**2. Land Acknowledgement**

We, the Moorhead Human Rights Commission, collectively and with gratitude, acknowledge the sacred land the City of Moorhead is built upon. We acknowledge the people who have resided here for generations and recognize that the spirit of the Dakota, Ojibwe, Metis and all Indigenous Communities permeates this land. The contribution of the Indigenous people shall not be forgotten nor will the success that is achieved by the People of the land. We will continue to educate, advocate, honor and unite for Indigenous people of this land.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

**A. February 18, 2026 Meeting Minutes**

Motion to Approve made by AnnaPoorna Rajesh and seconded by Jenifer Cannon.

For 5: Evett Ellis, AnnaPoorna Rajesh, Jenifer Cannon, Jennifer Aranda, Sebastian McDougall

Against 0: None

Abstain/Recuse 0: None

**Motion**

**4. Guest Speaker**

**A. Catherine Chilton-Werner, co-president, and Mary Stende Miller, co-president of Altrusa International of Fargo**

Catherine and Mary presented to the commission on Altrusa International of Fargo. Altrusa focuses on volunteering in the community. They provided the commission with information and events for Altrusa International of Fargo.

**5. Community Partners**

**6. Citizens To Be Heard**

**7. Regular Business**

**A. 2026 Work Plan**

Discussion occurred on how there has been talks on different focus areas that should be incorporated into the work plan. The chair, Evett Ellis, recommended to have a workshop scheduled for the month of June to discuss this further.

**8. Subcommittee Reports**

- A. Education and Outreach
- B. Events
- C. Awards

The Destiny Holiday Juneteenth Award was discussed and to put the call for nominations out as soon as possible. Discussion also occurred on the presentation of the award. Since no commissioner or staff representative had heard of any event planning for this upcoming Juneteenth that the option to present the award at the June 8 city council meeting was agreed upon.

#### 9. Reports/Announcements/Upcoming Events

Chair, Evet Ellis, reported on her position on the Mayor's Ad Hoc committee. Ellis informed the commissioners that this committee is made up of individuals in the community to address the concerns the community has on immigration enforcement (ICE). Ellis reported that they just had their first meeting and will continue to update the Human Rights Commissioners moving forward as this committee meets.

#### 10. New Business

#### 11. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:39pm