



**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING AGENDA
JULY 15, 2026 AT 5:00 PM
HJEMKOMST CENTER AUDITORIUM - 202 1ST AVE N.**

Disclaimer: Voting requirements may be subject to changes in the law, parliamentary procedural matters, or other unforeseen issues. The City Attorney provides opinion on questions of voting requirements by the Moorhead City Code, Minnesota State Statutes, and parliamentary procedure.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

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. May 20, 2026, Meeting Minutes
- B. June 2, 2026, Workshop Minutes

4. Guest Speaker

- A. 2025 HRC Award Recipient -Erienne Fawcett - Coordinator of Gender and Sexuality - MSUM
- B. Megan Lundborg - Community Resource Navigator - Moorhead Police Department

5. Community Partners

6. Citizens To Be Heard

7. Regular Business

- A. Review of Workshop Focus Areas

8. Subcommittee Reports

9. Reports/Announcements/Upcoming Events

10. New Business

11. Adjourn

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**MINUTES OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
HJEMKOMST CENTER AUDITORIUM - 202 1ST AVE N.
May 20, 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, Jennifer Aranda, Trenton Gerads, Sebastian McDougall

Present Not Voting (0):

Absent (2): Siham Amedy, Jenifer Cannon

2. Land Acknowledgement

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3. Approval of Minutes

A. April 15, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Roll call of the members was made as follows:

Present (5): Evett Ellis, AnnaPoorna Rajesh, Jennifer Aranda, Trenton Gerads, Sebastian McDougall

Present Not Voting (0):

Absent (2): Siham Amedy, Jenifer Cannon

4. Guest Speaker

A. Justice North - Crystal Jamerson, Community Outreach & Partnerships Lead.

Crystal Jamerson presented how Justice North assists low to moderate income individuals from all backgrounds. Provided information on their upcoming community huddle, to find out more you can view her presentation on the city of Moorhead YouTube channel, [City of Moorhead - Human Rights Commission Meeting May 20, 2026 - YouTube](#).

B. Callan Myers and Troy Jackson - Juneteenth Events

Human Rights Commission Chair, Evett Ellis presented on Juneteen events as Troy Jackson was unable to attend. To find out more on the event presented visit the youtube channel, [City of Moorhead - Human Rights Commission Meeting May 20, 2026 - YouTube](#)

5. Community Partners

6. Citizens To Be Heard

7. Regular Business

8. Subcommittee Reports

- A. Education and Outreach

- B. Events

- C. Awards

9. Reports/Announcements/Upcoming Events

10. New Business

- A. Destiny Holiday Award Nominations Discussion

The commission reported having this topic further discussed at the Human Rights workshop that will be held on June 2.

11. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 6:04pm

Human Rights Commission Workshop Minutes

Workshop Purpose

This workshop provided an opportunity for the Human Rights Commission (HRC) to review key priorities and advance two primary focus areas.

Meeting Start Time: 11:30 a.m.

Attendees

Present (7): Evett Ellis, AnnaPoorna Rajesh, Siham Amedy, Jennifer Aranda, Sebastian McDougall

Present – Not Voting: Tanya Kunza and Kelly Kuntz (joined the second portion of the meeting)

Absent: Jenifer Cannon, Trenton Gerads

1. Destiny Holiday Award 2026 & Future Direction

Siham Amedy and Evett Ellis opened the discussion. Siham shared that although the HRC has historically invested significant time and effort into the Destiny Holiday Award, nominations have consistently been difficult to obtain, and past nominees have not always aligned with the spirit of the award.

Jennifer Aranda provided background on Destiny Holiday, noting her grassroots work supporting youth, her role in founding the first Juneteenth celebration, and her mission to secure funding for positive youth activities. Jennifer suggested that honoring Destiny's legacy through a youth-focused activity might be more meaningful than continuing with the award format.

The group discussed shifting from presenting an award to offering something for children at the Juneteenth event—such as providing free ice cream in Destiny Holiday's memory. All attendees supported this idea. The group agreed not to present an award at the 2026 Juneteenth celebration and to move forward with the ice cream initiative for future years.

Motion:

- **Motion by:** Evett Ellis — to discontinue the Destiny Holiday Award and instead provide ice cream to children at Juneteenth in her memory.
- **Seconded by:** Anna Rajesh
- **Vote:** 5 For (Ellis, Rajesh, Amedy, Aranda, McDougall)
- **Against:** 0

Motion Passed

Break:

The meeting paused at 12:00 p.m. for lunch.

2. HRC Working Calendar 2026–2027: Focus Areas

The meeting resumed at 12:15 p.m.

Kelly Kuntz provided information on the City's social media practices and clarified what the HRC can do to promote its meetings and events. She explained that the City maintains accounts on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn, and that HRC members can submit content to her for posting on these

platforms. Kelly noted that individual commission Facebook pages are discouraged due to maintenance challenges and because it is easier for residents to find information in one centralized place.

Tanya Kunza read a statement submitted by Trenton Gerads, who was unable to attend. Trenton proposed that the HRC select two specific focus areas each year and structure meetings and guest speakers around them. The commissioners discussed focusing on **housing** and **education** in Moorhead—specifically exploring rights to housing and education.

Potential housing-related topics included:

- Affordable housing
- Access and barriers to housing
- Neighborhood design (walkability, accessibility, disability considerations)
- Challenges for individuals who do not use traditional banking and their ability to qualify for mortgages

Potential education-related topics included:

- School boundaries
- Children with disabilities
- Bussing and transportation
- Access to services

The group discussed possible guest speakers such as representatives from HRA Housing, the City Planning office, the homeless school liaison, and the School Board.

Commissioners agreed to continue with this two-topic focus approach for 2027 and to revisit details during a future workshop.

Workshop Adjourned: 12:55 p.m.