

Valparaiso Human Relations Council
August 22, 2017
Minutes

Heath Carter, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30pm

Present: Heath Carter (Chair), John Albers, Jeff Balon, Alex Clanton, Tatiana Cochran, Ric Frataccia, Margeaux Lustina, Roxanne Mendez-Johnson, Cicely Powell, John Seibert, Gene Tanner, and Angelys Torres

Absent: Michael Glorioso, Bill Lewis, and Beth Wrobel

Minutes of the July 26 meeting were approved as presented.

The chair introduced two new, non-voting members of the HRC: Police Chief Jeff Balon and Margeaux Lustina from Valparaiso High School.

Heath Carter began the meeting with brief updates on continuing matters of importance to the HRC:

- The Valpo Reads a Book funding proposal in the amount of \$1,000 requested by the HRC was approved by the council.
- Four persons have been appointed to lead the HRC Cultural Arts Program including Michael Glorioso (HRC member), Richard Severe, Lisa Woodward, and Jane Lohmeyer.
- The chair is working with city leadership, including department heads and elected leaders, on the proposed Community Relations Hire and will bring additional information to the September meeting of the HRC.
- The HRC will be represented at the World Cultural Festival on September 16 by Cicely Powell.

The Chair introduced a proposal for the HRC to host an event on August 30, 8pm, at Central Park Plaza, to respond in some manner to recent events in Charlottesville and/or demonstrate Valparaiso as a welcoming city, receiving input from HRC members and the public. After considerable discussion, the idea was dropped from consideration as an HRC event at this time.

The Chair introduced a guest, Alfredo Estrada, who made a presentation on a Welcoming City Ordinance. A sample ordinance and another sample resolution are attached to these minutes for reference. The chair and then the HRC members asked questions and provided initial input.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm with the next meeting being scheduled on Tuesday, September 26, at 5:30pm, at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,
John Albers
Secretary Pro-Tem