



# City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall  
400 La Crosse Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601

## Meeting Minutes

### Human Rights Commission

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Wednesday, June 20, 2018

5:15 PM

5th Floor Conference Room

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#### Call to Order

*The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m.*

#### Roll Call

**Present:** 5 - Steven C. Johnson, Jacqueline Marcou, Julie McDermid, Brandon Perrine, Jonathan Maye-Cates

**Excused:** 3 - Vacant 1, Vacant 2, A Xiong

#### Election of Officers

A motion was made by Perrine, seconded by Maye-Cates, to nominate Jacqueline Marcou as chair. The motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

A motion was made by Perrine, seconded by Maye-Cates, to nominate Julia McDermid as co-chair. The motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

#### Code of Ethics Certification

*All members confirmed they had reviewed the Code of Ethics. The chair will sign the certification form and return to the Clerk.*

#### Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Maye-Cates, to approve the April 25, 2018 meeting minutes. The motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.

#### Agenda Items:

1. [17-1317](#) Public Forum

*No comments were made during Public Forum.*

2. [18-0887](#) Discussion and action regarding relocating the Human Rights Commission meetings from City Hall to a community gathering space.

*McDermid noted she likes the idea of rotating space but keeping a regular schedule. Maye-Cates agreed and added that City Hall may be intimidating to some. Johnson suggested making sure location is on a public transit route. Marcou asked the*

*Commission members about meeting time/availability if they moved to locations that don't accommodate current meeting night. Commission generally liked rotating locations and getting into the neighborhoods. McDermid suggested some consistency in location for a sequence of meetings. Maye-Cates also suggested libraries as an option. Marcou will follow up with Parks, Library and Policing Center to see availability. Wednesdays were considered more problematic for the group.*

3. [18-0888](#)

Compassionate Community Faith Alliance to discuss their multicultural event "People Fest" on July 29th at Riverside Park.

*John, representing the Compassionate Community Faith Alliance, presented info on the event. It is an alliance of congregations with no religious affiliations focusing on marginalized people looking at social justice issues. This is the first annual event. It takes place on Sunday, July 29th from 2-7 p.m. All are invited and will feature performances, food vendors. Mayo is a sponsor and more sponsors are welcome. Marcou offered to consider HRC sponsoring. Maye-Cates offered to contact additional potential sponsors.*

**A motion was made by McDermid, seconded by Maye-Cates, to get a table at the event for HRC and provide a \$250 sponsorship. The motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.**

4. [18-0889](#)

Discussion regarding HRC Strategic Planning and Mission Workshops.

*Jason Gilman provided background. Marcou offered to provide a forum to help with the committee infrastructure to develop a vision-mission and goals. Maye-Cates mentioned using the effective templates being used in other cities. Johnson mentioned the importance of value statements. McDermid mentioned she liked getting the public input first and tapping into existing reports to find out where the HRC could have impact. Maye-Cates asked what kind of information we get now. Marcou suggested we schedule a public input session or a multifaceted approach to gaining public feedback. Maye-Cates recommended going to the congregations, farmers markets. McDermid noted an intense roll out of several events, methods. Marcou also noted the neighborhood associations. Perrine noted forums for people to be heard is important currently. McDermid noted how important it is to have a skilled facilitator to get to the answer about what the HRC should do about certain needs.*

**A motion was made by Perrine, seconded by Johnson, to work with staff on looking for a skilled facilitator and a sequence of public engagement techniques including but not limited to: farmers markets, booths, surveys, and neighborhood associations national night out, and to bring data back to help HRC with strategic direction. The motion carried 5-0 by voice vote.**

5. [18-0890](#)

Community Engagement Opportunities

*Peoplefest*

*La Crosse Area Hmong History Day (this Saturday)*

*Johnson noted a County event he'll forward*

*McDermid noted Homeless Connect on July 26 from 11a-4p at the La Crosse Center*

6. [18-0891](#)

Announcements

*Marcou noted GARE membership options and they are sending a representative to present to the city*

## Next Meeting Date/Agenda Items

*The next meeting is July 18, 2018.*

*Johnson noted a new agenda item for next month on people passing pet dogs as fake service dogs. He is working on getting various definitions together, including ADA, fair housing, Title 1, Title 2, etc. and is working to setup a Chicago representative Peter Berg (ADA) on providing information to the community. This would be a one or two day training to the City and County.*

## Adjournment

**A motion was made by Maye-Cates, seconded by McDermid, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 5-0 by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.**

*Notice is further given that members of other governmental bodies may be present at the above scheduled meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility.*

### NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

*Requests from persons with a disability who need assistance to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk's office at (608) 789-7510 or send an email to [ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org](mailto:ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org), with as much advance notice as possible.*