



# City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall  
400 La Crosse Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Human Rights Commission

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Wednesday, September 19, 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:** 6 - Julie McDermid, A Xiong, Justice Weaver, Brandon Perrine, Jonathan Maye-Cates, Nese Nasif

**Excused:** 2 - Steven C. Johnson, Vacant 1

*Others present: Council member Marcou & Attorney Fredrickson*

#### Approval of Minutes

**A motion was made by McDermid, seconded Perrine, to approve the August 15th, 2018 meeting minutes. The motion carried 6-0 by voice vote.**

#### Agenda Items:

- 1     [18-1224](#)     Complaint filed by Rosana Hernandez vs. City of La Crosse Housing  
  
*Att. Fredrickson noted the complain does not meet HRC criteria & to refer to HUD or ask for amendment. Fredrickson recommended referral to HUD with both McDermid & Weaver agreeing.*  
  
**A motion was made by Perrine, seconded by McDermid to send to HUD. The motion carried 6-0 by voice vote.**
- 2     [18-1302](#)     Update on the GARE membership resolution  
  
**Attachments:**     [GARE Membership Resolution.pdf](#)  
  
*Jason provided background.*
- 3     [18-1301](#)     Report by the City Attorney on proposed changes to the HRC ordinance regarding complaints  
  
*Fredrickson provided an overview on 3 major changes recommended in ordinances amendments*

1. Chair has ability to vet complaints first
2. HRC no longer hears complaints; rather they appoint an independent & examiner to run hearing
3. Housing authority more clearly considered - referred to HUD

Chairman Weaver asked group on referring for considering

Xiong asked for time to review

Julia asked for clarification on Chain vetting apps

Paul noted established criteria can be used

**4**      [18-1304](#)      Discussion on policy recommendation regarding the display of flags and weapons

*Julia presented background & the negative impact on event.*

### Additional Notes

*Nese noted options for chair are limited to 2 - noting some issues can be subjective; could there be a 3rd option to refer to Commission to look at gray areas.*

*Council member Weaver asked if initial application/complaints can be shared with rest of committee.*

*Fredrickson stated clerk will distribute to all.*

*Paul cautioned for walking quorums.*

*Julia asked about the hearing examiner - if it is the choice of the HRC & what the cost would be.*

*Paul stated yes - HRC's choice, usually an attorney.*

*Julia also asked about section J relating to the Housing Authority & Madison's systems - HRC only handles things not handled by HUD but rather City Ordinance.*

*Paul noted two to a repeal and replace ordinance.*

*Council member Marcou also abstract of the Chair vetting process was a Madison recommendation.*

*Paul noted no.*

*Council member Marcou did not like two options.*

*Xiong asked of certain complaints & if we can have a lot of appropriate resources that pair with types of complaints.*

*Weaver asked Paul if there are any solutions.*

*Paul noted no good solutions due to 1st & 2nd amendment; issues Julia noted making about one committee*

*Nese noted you could increase police presence to make sure people feel safe. Also suggested when symbols of hate and weapons present, the city policy be to measure serenity in the public.*

### Next Meeting Date/Agenda Items

*The next meeting is October 17th, 2018.*

**5**      [18-1303](#)      Announcements

**A motion was made by McDermid, seconded by Maye-Cates, for the HRC to have a display booth on October 13th, for the Hmong New Year Festival, for the price of \$50. The motion was carried 6-0 by voice vote.**

## Adjournment

**A motion was made by Perrine, seconded by Weaver, to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m. The motion was carried 6-0 by voice vote.**

*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.*