

Minutes – Approved
Ironwood Human Relations and Equity Committee
Wednesday, June 3, 2026

Location: Ironwood Memorial Building
Women's Room
213 S Marquette Street
Ironwood, MI 49938

Working Meeting
6:00pm

Call to Order: 6:02pmCT

Attendance: C Rusch, CErickson, G Gripper, J Manier (late): Absent: A Burchell

Approval of Consent Agenda: Manier motionn to approve/second Rusch – Approved

Approval of Previous Minutes (*Review and place on file*): **May 12, 2026** – Manier motion to approve/Erickson second –Approved.

Public Input: No public present

Items for Discussion and Action:

Solicitation for Funds (document preparation for consideration) – report on progress – email from City Mgr. See attached string of emails that pretty much say we have to ask for money from the City Commission or the City Manager. Donations can come in, but we cannot directly solicit funds.

Website Work – Update on progress – T Erickson did add the website content for Community Resources. C Erickson looked at it, tried all the links, a few of them had to be redone. That has been accomplished. It only takes 3 clicks to reach the main resource tab and the list of resources.

Final Plans for Pride Event in June – C Erickson has found the folders with printouts from past years. The ones recommended for use are as follows: Ordinance, the list of books read by DMRG, list of accomplishments, community survey. Flags have arrived, both US and LGBTQ+. C Erickson will bring all items to the City Square for set up at 10am on Saturday. Others should be there to help with setup.

Planning for Disability Pride Month – C Erickson has reached out to T Patel about help with making the posters for the celebration. Was told to contact E Burchell or T Erickson. T Erickson declined due to pressing full-time job requirements. E Burchell believes she can complete the posters, but HREC must get information to her no later than June 10, so she has

time in between other work to complete the posters so they can be printed by June 30. They will go to the Mem Bldg and to stores downtown. A presentation for the public needs to be developed. Manier and Gripper will determine the date, time, place, and content of the presentation prior to June 30. Manier agreed to create the verbiage for poster(s) on main points of the ADA.

Proclamation Disability Pride Month – has been sent to the clerk, will be on a Commission meeting agenda before the end of June. Question remains about when the Mayor will read it publicly.

Recommendation for City Commission – We established preliminary wording for a task force recommendation. Document is in Civil Rights folder inside HREC. Perhaps we need to do some research inside the GARE network.

Items to keep on the radar:

- Planning for Celebration Projects for 2026
- Education Sessions – to include idea for Information Resources
- Discussion of Public Comments from July 23
- Community Engagement Ideas
- Spark Plans for Projects / Rename overall Spark Plan
- Discussion of Survey
- Should Dida Protest Flier be redistributed to businesses
- Look into nominations for employee recognition – work with City and Department heads.
- Immigration and City stance

Adjournment: by consensus – 8:02pmCT

To Do List

- ☐ All will help with setup for Pride Event at 10:00am June 6
- ☐ Erickson will bring table, canopy, items, other gear, etc for the Pride Event
- ☐ Erickson will have updated documents printed for Pride Event table
- ☐ Erickson will submit a funding request to ITC to help with poster development
- ☐ All poster information will be sent to E Burchell by June 10
- ☐ Gripper and Manier will develop the presentation about ADA prior to June 30
- ☐ Manier will contact City Clerk to reserve the Women's Room in Mem Bldg for the presentation
- ☐ Manier will complete ADA poster(s)
- ☐ Rusch will do research in the GARE website

Addendum:

Email contents from City Mgr.

Carol,

The Civic Center, Library and DIDA all operate under their own Boards that are all independent from the City Commission. Those Boards would make those fundraising decisions. For Parks and Rec / DNR Trust Fund matching projects, those fundraising efforts need to go through the City Commission. There have only been two instances of this in the past 15-ish years that Paul L and I can think of. Those two are 1) the Hiawatha crowdfunding grant and 2) Bridge the Gap where the City needed additional funds to cover the costs of the trail bridge across the Montreal River into Wisconsin.

As far as HREC asking for permission from the City Commission to solicit financial support for projects, that will have to be addressed by the City Commission on an individual basis. Having the City ask it's citizens for additional money beyond the taxes that are already paid by the public is a very sensitive topic.

Paul Anderson, P.E.

City Manager / City Engineer