



# Royal Oak

## Agenda

### Royal Oak Human Rights Commission Meeting

Tuesday, September 3, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

City Hall, Room 122

203 S. Troy Street

Royal Oak, Michigan 48067

Anyone planning to attend the meeting who has need of special assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is asked to contact the city clerk's office at 248-246-3050 at least two (2) business days prior to the meeting.

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## Minutes

### Royal Oak Human Rights Commission Meeting

July 1, 2024, 6:30 p.m.  
City Hall, Room 122  
203 S. Troy Street  
Royal Oak, Michigan 48067

Present:                   Rachel Andrews  
                                 Bob Luxon  
                                 Ashley Morel  
                                 Brett Tillander  
                                 Gerardo Aponte-Safe

Absent:                   Annie Urasky  
                                 Tiekeya Smith

Non-Voting Members   Susan Barkman  
Present:

Alayna Brasch

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#### 1.     **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm.

#### 2.     **Roll Call**

#### 3.     **Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Bob Luxon

Seconded by: Gerardo Aponte-Safe

Motion Adopted

#### 4.     **Approval of Minutes**

Lisa Mason correction.

Moved by: Brett Tillander  
Seconded by: Ashley Morel

Motion Adopted

**5. Public Comment**

None.

**6. Business**

**6.a Discussion and Recap on Tabling**

Ashley Morel: Was able to make close connections with some people she met at the tabling event(s).

Brett Tillander: There was great balance between staff support and HRC member participation. Also mentioned that people came up to the table needing help, and those at the table were able to provide help. Both events offered the group great visibility.

Rachel Andrews: At some point the bookmark should include a QR code.

\*The drawing ended up competing a little with the HRC's table because the drawing activity was set up behind the group's table.

\*\*Rachel was approached by a guy with a camera for an interview. It ended up being the City's tv vendor, but some media training in the future for this potentially happening again could be helpful.

**6.b Survey Update**

\*\*Email out the survey draft to the group as well as the document including the links to survey examples from other cities.

\*The intro paragraph from the Annual Report should be the intro to the survey

\*Wording and tone of intro needs to be edited

\*Recognition that the survey isn't the most effective way, but it is a tool that allows the group to hear from the community.

\*Brett Tillander brought up the idea of field testing the survey before we make it public to the community.

\*Susan Barkman is asking the group to turn in their to staff edits/questions about the survey draft by July 11

**6.c Building Connections - Who do we need to build connections with?**

Rachel Andrews: Contacted Royal Oak High School about sponsoring some of their events starting next school year as well as sending a list of potential students to fill the open student seat in the group.

\*The group wants to start compiling their contacts to create a list by September.

**6.d Annual Report Review**

Final approval from the group will happen at the next September meeting.

\*Add a note about the Naturalization event to the Annual Report. As well as the meetings with Judge Meinecke and Chief Moore about Operation Drive.

**6.e Recruitment for a new Student Member**

Royal Oak High School Admin will send us some names once the school year starts.

**6.f Resource List**

As of now there's a small list of resources on one side of the bookmark. The group is interested in compiling an internal list of human rights-related resources.

\*Rachel Andrews offered to create and send out a shared google doc for this purpose.

**7. Public Comment**

None.

**8. Commissioner Reports**

**9. Announcements**

**9.a Next Meeting: September 3, 2024**

ICMA 2-day sessions the group is being invited.

\*Next September meeting is on Tuesday the 3rd.

**10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at (time).

Moved by: Bob Luxon

Seconded by: Gerardo Aponte-Safe

Motion Adopted



## HUMAN RIGHT COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

<b>Title</b>	<b>2023-2024 Human Rights Commission Annual Report</b>
<b>SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>City Manager's Office</b>
<b>PRESENTER</b>	<b>Susan Barkman</b>
<b>MEETING DATE</b>	<b>September 12, 2024</b>

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** (*include history of previous Commission action/discussion, background, scope of work, etc.:*)

The Human Rights Commission is required by ordinance to submit to the Royal Oak City Commission an annual report that summarizes the work the HRC has been doing over the past year and outlines where the board is headed in the year ahead.

Attached is the draft report, as prepared by staff. If the commission approves the report it would be presented to the City Commission on September 9. The board is welcome to attend, but typically the staff liaison opens the presentation and then gives the chair some time to present.

Please note the attached document is a tri-fold style brochure. Staff will have samples for you during the meeting.

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## Special Thank You!



# Royal Oak **HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

The Human Rights Commission would like to thank the many people who work together to support the Family Pride and Juneteenth Events for giving us the opportunity to table at your events.

We would also like to thank Police Chief Michael Moore, and Judge Derek Meinecke and Judge Andrew Kowalkowski for spending an evening with us over the past year to talk about the work that they are doing in their respective areas.

Annual Report  
2023-2024



Drawing by Elina.

At Family Pride, the HRC asked kids to draw us pictures to engage kids and their parents with the table.

## 2023 Goals

1. Work to develop surveys/data collection for a variety of audiences including residents, visitors, and employees.
2. Developing partnerships with city departments and organizations to help drive community change.
3. Connecting and meeting with community resources and community educational programs to identify gaps.

Over the past year the Human Rights Commission has continued to work as board to build the foundation for their future work.

The group took the opportunity to learn more from both the Royal Oak Police Department and the 44<sup>th</sup> District Court on some of the work they do in their respective parts of the justice system.

In the most recent months, they have been working with staff to develop a survey to better understand the experiences of people who live, work and play in our community.

This past year they completed a strategic plan which will help guide their future goals and progress. After some discussion the group wanted to center their efforts moving forward around three themes.

1. Build relationships that are inclusive and reflect the community.
2. Raising awareness based on equity.
3. Create, measure and evaluate healthy and accessible human-centered systems.

## 2024 Goals

As a part of their 2024 goals the board would like to primarily focus on themes 1 and 2. In the year ahead they are focused on developing a survey for all Royal Oak residents, visitors, businesses owners and employees to better understand the experiences. Using this data they hope to develop the recommendations for improving equity in Royal Oak.

Additionally, the board hopes to continue their outreach efforts at various community focused events and programs. The board enjoyed meeting with residents at Family Pride and Juneteenth.



Image: HRC members Brett, Rachel and Bob at the Family Pride event tabling for the HRC.