

**Human Rights Commission**  
**Wednesday March 13<sup>th</sup> 2024 | 5:30 pm**  
**City Hall Room 430**

Public Comment will be taken in person. Individuals may also email or mail comments to the Commission prior to the meeting, see contact info at bottom of agenda for more information.

Attendance: Guest speaker League of Women Voters (LWV): Sue DeNio Voter Services Chair; Nomi Ostrander; Jennifer Harris; Officer Carl Crawford, Frances Wittenberg, and Kathleen Spencer

- Call to Order at: 5:31 pm
- Wittenberg, Kraemer, nomination for the DEI award, due to the officer transitions,  
Approval of February 2024 Meeting Minutes: 1<sup>st</sup> Commissioner Wittenberg and 2<sup>nd</sup> motions  
Commissioner Jaramillo-Kraemer
- Public comments and written comments: None at this time
- Discussion on Voter Engagement with rep from LWV

Legal limitations, Voting against their best interests, tape forums 4 weeks before elections, non-partisan.

Associated with agency. Only city and county positions. Register to vote, find your polling place, view a sample ballot, check if registered to vote in the precinct they live in, voter assistance, 16/17 year old can pre-register since they will obtain their license, based on their permanent address (opt-in), permanent absentee ballots (for those who will not move or have limitations), colleges, knowing your rights, voting with a criminal record (with no verification) as long they can be present, register to vote with either social security or driver's license number, registration forms on-line, absentee ballot requests are all on-line, and more. **Vote411.org**

Continues to work with CHUM, Damiano, AICHO, FFC, Life House, Safe Haven

Source: Secretary of the State (cannot reward or give incentives to those who register to vote), you can not endorse a candidate or a party

How is the league handling with the homelessness issues. Just being present, and attended over 32 events. John Lewis Voting Rights Act.

- Committee Reports
    - Executive Team
      - Plan for educational opportunity - Justice Department call (**Open** table until next meeting)
      - Meeting with Mayor 3/27: Short meeting with the Executive Officers will attend with Mayor to discuss further Hiring a new Human Rights Officer, recruiting more commissioners,
    - Findings Committee (nothing to report)
  - Announcements and Upcoming Events
    - a. Join the newly formed Northern MN + WI Braver Angels Alliance (is America's largest grassroots, cross-partisan organization depolarizing America) to come learn about both the national and local organization that aims to unite the "red" and "blue" Americans in a working alliance to depolarize America. "What's your "Red Line" podcast listen and small group discussion; **Sunday April 14 at 3pm at Bent Paddle**
  - Human Rights Officer Report
    - 1. Last commissioner meeting with Officer Crawford (newly created position, county DEI and belonging work, internal and administrative work.
    - 2. Thank you's, greatest days ahead, pushing for hiring the next position, look for new members to be part of the Human Rights Commission (opportunity recharge)
- Vision** to see the commissioners advocate and promote Voter Clause: those who have a disability has the right to vote, voting polls are accessible,
- Additional public comments and commissioner comments

Look forward to celebrating Officer Crawford work and dedication to

- Request for Agenda Items for next meeting, send to Laura Laaksonen, May ISD 709 will be present. St. Louis are actively removing the “bias” in correlation to mandatory reporting  
The use of “Retarded” should not be appropriate versus kids with a disability, could address to ISD 709 how they handle terms are be used amongst students.
- Adjourn at 6:20pm

The public is also encouraged to submit written comment to the commission prior to the meeting by emailing [humanrights@duluthmn.gov](mailto:humanrights@duluthmn.gov) or mailing comments to City Hall at 411 W 1st St, Attn: Human Rights Office Room 434, Duluth, MN 55802. Please note that all public comment is considered Public Data.