

Section 340 - Human Rights Commission

340.01 Policy. It is hereby declared that it is the public policy of the City, in cooperation with the State Department of Human Rights, to secure for all citizens equal opportunity in housing, employment, public accommodations, public services and education, and to work consistently to improve the human relations climate of the City of Hopkins.

340.03 Establishment and Composition. There is hereby reestablished a Human Rights Commission of the City of Hopkins. The Commission shall be composed of at least nine and no more than fifteen members for three year terms. A majority of members shall be residents of Hopkins. In addition, two students from Hopkins High School who live in Hopkins, may be appointed for a 1 year term. Members shall be appointed by the City Council. (Amended Ord. No. 94-736)

340.05 Terms. Members of the Human Rights Commission shall be appointed for terms of three years. Terms shall expire on June 30th of each year. Upon expiration of a term of office, the members shall continue to serve until a successor is appointed and qualified. Members shall serve no more than two consecutive terms unless the Commission did not have fifteen members at any time during the member's last term; in which case the member may be reappointed to another term. Members may be re-nominated after being off the Commission for one year. (Amended Ord. No. 2002-872)

340.07 Removal. The Council, by a majority vote, may remove any member of the Human Rights Commission without cause.

340.09 Vacancies. Vacancies occurring in membership of the Human Rights Commission shall be filled for the unexpired term by the Council.

340.11 Compensation. Members of the Human Rights Commission shall serve without compensation.

340.13 Responsibilities. In fulfillment of its purpose, the Human Rights Commission is advisory to the City Council. New programs and policies must receive the approval of the City Council prior to implementation. Specific duties and responsibilities shall be to:

- a. Adopt by-laws and/or Rules of Conduct for its affairs.
- b. Develop, in cooperation with the State Department of Human Rights, programs of formal and informal education.

- c. Formulate a Human Rights Program for the City of Hopkins, subject to review and approval by the Hopkins City Council, to give increased effectiveness, direction and encouragement to the work of all individuals and agencies addressing themselves to planning, policy making and educational programming in the area of civil and human rights, including helping people identify their responsibilities to bridge cultural and other differences.
- d. Coordinate efforts with Human Rights Commissions of neighboring cities where appropriate.
- e. Prepare a Memorandum of Agreement with the State Department of Human Rights for the purpose of implementing regulatory and enforcement procedures.
- f. Make recommendations to the City Manager and City Council in regard to the planning or operation of any City Department on issues of civil and human rights and make recommendations regarding the adoption of such specific policies or actions as are needed to provide for full equal opportunity in the City of Hopkins.
- g. Advise and make recommendations to the City Council in regard to human relations and civil rights problems in general, including but not limited to the protection of children, discrimination on the basis of socioeconomic status, family composition, and equal access to educational, employment, and recreational activities.
- h. Work with the West Suburban Mediation Center on methods to resolve disputes regarding human rights and procedures for referring human rights complaints to the Center for mediation.

340.15 Adoption by reference. Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 363, is adopted by reference and a part of this ordinance as if fully set forth herein.

(This Section added through Ord. No. 93-729)