



## CITY OF REVERE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

5:00 pm Eastern Time

Location: City Council Chambers or via Zoom

Monthly Meeting on December 1, 2022

### Minutes

**1) Chairperson Grillo Marra calls meeting to order.**

**2) Roll Call of Commissioners**

- Present in person: Chief Chris Bright, Dr Lourenco Garcia, Molly McGee, Rachid Moukhabir, Kourou Pich, and Chair Janine Grillo Marra
- Present remotely on Zoom: Rev Tim Bogertman, Vice Chair Chaimaa Hossaini
- Absent: Lynn Alexis, Chief Dave Callahan
- Quorum in attendance.

**3) Land Acknowledgment**

Recognizes and respects Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of this land. Includes moment of silence to acknowledge that Revere is the land of the Pawtucket tribe.

**4) Arrive & Settle - Brief Silence**

Chair Grillo Marra screen shares and reads a poem *Respecting Differences*, by Sandra Feldman, followed by short silence.

**5) Approval of Minutes from the November 3<sup>rd</sup> Monthly Meeting**

Chief Bright MOTIONS to approve the minutes and Rachid Moukhabir seconds; All are in favor.

**6) Monthly Acknowledgements**

December is Universal Human Rights month

**7) Circle Process**

Chairperson Grillo Marra makes these announcements:

- Acknowledges that the agenda about Circle Process was general because logistics and technology were being addressed up until the afternoon of this meeting. She apologizes if there was any confusion.
- We are in the initial steps of exploring Circle Practices and plan to continue in 2023, including the community, so we ask for your patience.
- Strong Oak Lefebvre, guest speaker from November HRC meeting, is willing to partner with us as we explore Circle Practices further.
- Chairperson Grillo Marra then thanks and introduces Commissioner Pich who trained as a Circle Keeper (Host) and has used Circle Practices in her work and life for 7 years.
- The HRC will model the Circle Process now and Commissioner Pich will be the Circle keeper (Host). There will be opportunity for questions and input after the Circle closes.



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Brief recess for HRC members attending in person to join the chairs arranged in a Circle on the floor of Chambers.

HRC members participate in Circle process.

Circle outline: Attached at end of Minutes

Open discussion: No guests present in person or on Zoom. Vice Chair Hossaini expresses appreciation for the Circle Process and importance of being so fully present. She hoped she would be able to attend in person.

### **8) Adjournment**

Chief Bright MOTIONS to adjourn. Commissioner Pich seconds. All in favor. Meeting adjourned. The HRC will reconvene sometime in early 2023.

CIRCLE OUTLINE BELOW



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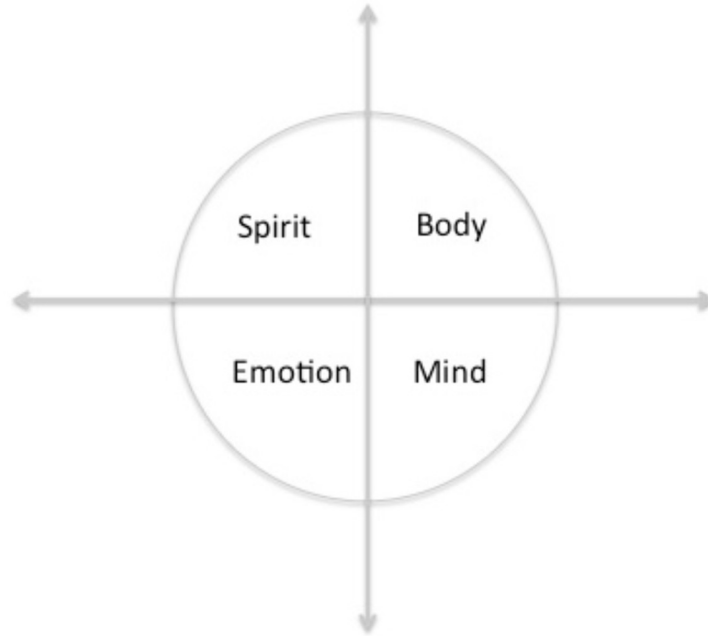
Revere Human Rights Commission Circle 12.1.22		
Orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Circle process is a core mechanism for governance in indigenous communities throughout the hemisphere. Circle is a process of community building through the creation of sustainable long-term relationships between members of the Circle. Circles have been used successfully in the community on how to deal with breaking agreements and differences of opinion where all voices are heard.</li></ul> <p>Circle process is the enactment of the principles of the Indigenous Medicine Wheel, which is an ontological map that explains the order of the universe, the world, human relationships, and humanity itself. The first layer of meaning pertains to the nature of the self, which is that we are made up of four core parts: body, mind, emotion, and spirit. A human being in good relationship with itself is in good relationship with its body, mind, emotion, and spirit. At this point, it is important not to get into deterministic arguments seeking to fully understand what each of these means. From an Indigenous point of view, everybody is different and so everybody expresses each of these elements in their unique manner. The focus is less on the definitions and more on the identification of a type of landscape of human expression from which one can appreciate each person's unique expression of self.</p>	



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- The centerpiece: Circles use a centerpiece to create a focal point that supports speaking from the heart and listening from the heart. The centerpiece may include items representing the values of the core self, the foundational principles of the process, a shared vision of the group. Centerpieces often emphasize inclusion by incorporating symbols of individual circle members as well as cultures represented in the circle
- Talking Piece: Talking Piece is passed sunwise around the circle, no one can interrupt the person holding the talking piece, one can pass if they don't have something to share, no cross-talking, listen fully, and no interrupting, shouting at someone, judging someone, etc. Only the person holding the talking piece may speak.
- Self Care



**CITY OF REVERE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

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<p>Opening</p>	<p><b>Turning to One Another</b></p> <p>There is no power greater than a community discovering what it cares about.          Ask “What’s possible?” not “What’s wrong?” Keep asking.          Notice what you care about.          Assume that many others share your dreams.          Be brave enough to start a conversation that matters.          Talk to people you know.          Talk to people you don’t know.          Talk to people you never talk to.          Be intrigued by the differences you hear.          Expect to be surprised.          Treasure curiosity more than certainty.          Invite in everybody who cares to work on what’s possible.          Acknowledge that everyone is an expert about something.          Know that creative solutions come from new connections.          Remember, you don’t fear people whose story you know.          Real listening always brings people closer together.          Trust that meaningful conversations can change your world.          Rely on human goodness. Stay together.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">—Margaret Wheatley, “Turning to One Another,”</p>	
<p>Check In</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share your name and what brings you here today</li> </ul>	
<p>Agreements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do you need to give yourself and what do you need from others to bring your best self here?</li> </ul>	
<p>The Medicine Wheel Question for the commissioners</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What does Human Rights mean to you and why do you serve on the Human Rights Commission?</li> <li>2. How has this work been so far?</li> <li>3. What kind of support do you need from the community?</li> </ol>	
<p>Check Out</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What happened for you today?</li> </ul>	
<p>Closing</p>	<p>Come out of the circle of time and into the circle of Love.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">--Rumi</p>	