



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes - Final

EQUAL RIGHTS COMMISSION

TONY SNELL RODRIGUEZ, CHAIR

ELLE HALO, VICE-CHAIR

**Jessica Boling, William Crowley, Nathan Guequierre,
Jacqueline Cook, Paul Smith, Alexandria Staubach,
Alexander Kostal and Denise Manjarrez-Renteria**

Staffing: Ramona Ramos

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

4:00 PM

Room 301-A, City Hall

1. Call to Order

This meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Snell Rodriguez at 4:04 PM

2. Roll Call

Present 6 - Snell Rodriguez, Guequierre, Boling, Smith, Halo and Manjarrez-Renteria

Excused 4 - Crowley, Cook, Staubach and Kostal

3. Welcome from Chair

Chair Snell Rodriguez welcomed attendees and recognized Women's History Month.

- Girls Day at City Hall – March 26*
- Apprenticeship Day – April 16*
- Mayor State of the City Address – March 30*
- City Hall Career and Resource Fair – April 18*
- Poll worker recruitment*

Commission's recent annual report meeting with the Mayor Johnson. Discussion included:

- Expanding housing discrimination protections under Chapter 109*
- Housing voucher barriers*
- The need for stronger local response because federal and state systems are limited or backlogged*
- Mayor responded positively and is open to further review, looking forward to resolutions*

Commissioners invited to attend the Judiciary & Legislation Committee Meeting to present the ERC Annual Report on April 13, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

Chair Snell Rodriguez shared an update on a citywide sensory-inclusive certification initiative. The initiative is expected to provide training and resources for City departments and community-facing organizations.

4. Approval of LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee Charge

The Commission reviewed the proposed LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee charge.

- Keeping the committee practical and not performative*
 - Aligning recommendations with Chapter 109*
 - Identifying departments and policy areas early so the work can lead to action*
- An amendment was proposed to allow the ERC Chair to appoint either a chair or co-chairs of the committee. No objections were raised.*

Motion: Commissioner Halo motion to approve the charge as amended.

Second: Commissioner Boling seconded.

Vote: Full Commission Approval by voice vote. No objections.

Result: Motion carried.

5. Communications from Committees

Governance

- Introduced Madeleine Miranda Navarro as the recommended final commissioner candidate*
- She shared her background in public health and interest in equity work*
- Ramona Ramos reported that the appointment is still moving through the City process*
- The Commission is expected to be full for the first time in several years*

Governance priorities discussed

- Commissioner training*
- Open meetings and open records guidance*
- Strategic planning*
- Possible committee restructuring*

Housing

- Housing Committee work is underway*
- Creating a housing-related file to organize materials*
- Reviewing information from the Legislative Reference Bureau*
- Preparing possible resolutions or draft legislation*
- Consulting the City Attorney's Office as needed*
- The goal is to move housing recommendations forward efficiently*

Ad Hoc Complaints

- No current Committee Updates*

6. ERC and Staff Updates

Chair Snell Rodriguez

- *Ability per Chapter 109 to call in other City Departments to report out*
- *Remain in the scope of Chapter 109*
- *Resolution on housing is a possibility*

Ramona Ramos – Equal Rights Complaints Liaison

- *Continued intake of complaints and referrals*
- *Development of a complaint-processing app in process, making progress*
- *Commissioner city email access issues*
- *Plans for name tags and T-shirts for outreach events*
- *Possible intern(s) support for summer outreach*
- *The Equal Rights Specialist position will be filled*
- *Training opportunities through the City Clerk's Office*
- *Ramona Ramos' promotion announced, she will continue supporting the ERC during the transition period*

7. Community Announcements

- *Future planning for International Human Rights Day*
- *Need to reschedule committee planning*

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn. Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 5:31 PM