



CITY OF
VALPARAISO

166 Lincolnway
Valparaiso, IN 46383
(219) 462-1161
Valpo.us

Deb Porter
PFLAG - Valparaiso
3602 Candlewood Dr.
Valparaiso, IN 46385

Re: HRC Presentation

Deb:

On behalf of all the members of the Valparaiso Advisory Human Relations Commission ("HRC"), I want to thank you for your presentation concerning PFLAG. One of the goals of the HRC is to highlight the many nonprofit organizations in our community doing important work.

As you mentioned, June is Pride Month. Its origins go back to 1999 and a declaration made by President Bill Clinton to commemorate the 1969 Stonewall uprisings in New York. It has evolved to now recognize the contributions of members of the LGBTQ+ community.

After your presentation, I had the opportunity to meet with Mayor Murphy and discuss your involvement with PFLAG and the possibility of recognizing June as Pride Month in Valparaiso. With the one exception of acknowledging Disability Awareness Month in March (a first for the City), the City has not issued proclamations on any of the numerous daily/weekly/monthly celebrations that are recognized on the national and/or state level. One challenge is as you start to acknowledge and celebrate some events, you inevitably miss others. Although there will not be a formal municipal proclamation for Pride Month, such does not diminish the contributions of all members of our community.

The HRC encourages Valparaiso residents to make our community welcoming to all and joins in the recognition of Pride Month.

Mitch Peters, President
Valparaiso Advisory Human Relations Commission