



## HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

### Minutes

May 8, 2012

6:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Darnel Frost.

**Present:**

Margaret Duwe  
Darnel Frost  
Genevieve Hodges  
John Hoffmann  
Romona Miller  
Tere Owens  
Stacy Reliford

**Absent:**

Ed Johnston

**City Council Liaison:** Council Member Iggy Yuan

**Staff Liaison:** Chief Administrative Officer Mike Brown - absent

**Also Attending:** Mayor Art McDonnell  
Kathie Valentine, Administration Department

**Visitors:** Jonathon Browne, President, Novus,  
Larry Hoyt, Property Manager, Novus  
Carol Gilster

### Roll Call

Roll call was taken by Maggie Duwe. Attendance is reflected above.

### Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Stacy Reliford and seconded by Maggie Duwe to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2012 meeting as amended. All in favor, motion carried.

### Accessible Parking at the Kirkwood Post Office

Jonathon Browne and Larry Hoyt, Novus, had been asked to attend the HRC meeting by Commission members to discuss possible remedies to make the accessible parking safer at the Kirkwood Post Office. Carol Gilster explained that she didn't feel safe going from the disabled parking space in front of the post office to the existing ramp as one has to go behind parked

vehicles. She suggested an asphalt ramp be built so that people using the parking spot would not have to go behind parked cars.

Parking issues:

- Door access
- Weekend access from the west lot
- Access issues from the disabled parking space in front of the post office

Jonathan Browne explained that:

- The disabled parking is ADA compliant.
- There was discussion on having paddle doors installed on either one or both doors. The entry doors are the responsibility of the post office. Novus would authorize them to do whatever is needed. It was noted that the metal detector inside the door might create an obstacle.
- The weekend access from the west lot has been restricted due to vandalism. It is a security issue for people working upstairs in the building.
- Novus will look into what remedy would be safe in order to eliminate the danger of using the disabled parking space at the front of the building, an architect will be consulted (ramp, adding another space, step down curb to ramp).
- Timeline for completion would be 90 days unless special approval is needed.

Tere Owens recommended that Adaptability or Paraquad be contacted for advice. It was the consensus of the Commission to wait and see what influence Novus might have with the post office and possible paddle installation before taking any other steps.

### **Report of City Council Liaison**

Council Member Iggy Yuan reported that the first meeting of the new City Council had taken place with Nancy Luetzow newly joining the Council. Gina Jaksetic and Gerry Biedenstein had been re-elected. He also reported that the Kirkwood Roots map was being presented to the Kirkwood Public Library on May 23. Board and Commission appointments are being made.

### **HRC Brochure**

The Commission approved the HRC brochure with a couple of revisions noted. A copy of the brochure will be e-mailed to the HRC prior to printing for final approval.

### **Meacham Park Homecoming**

Romona Miller will check on booth availability.

### **Symposium**

Bullying will be the topic of this year's symposium. Items discussed:

- Maggie Duwe will check into getting a copy of the Bullying movie.
- Use the lecture hall at Kirkwood High School instead of holding the symposium at the Robert G. Reim Theater. Romona Miller will check for availability and stated that there would be no charge to use the lecture hall.
- Have parents and youth watch the movie together and then have a breakout session.
- The CFUH group would like to know what their assignment will be – possibly utilize as greeters and facilitators.

- Contact Tina Meiers to request her participation along with the Cultural Relationship Group at KHS.

### **New Business**

A copy of a letter drafted to send to the Mayor and City Council regarding requesting a change to the existing non-discrimination ordinance (adding wording on sexual orientation and gender identity) was distributed. After review, motion was made by Darnel Frost and seconded by Stacy Reliford, to approve for mailing. All in favor, motion carried. Maggie Duwe and Darnel Frost will again meet with John Hessel in May.

### **Other**

- Genevieve Hodges relayed the following concerns from Ron Hodges regarding the Mediation Agreement.
  - Suspicion that the Mediation Agreement meeting scheduled for this week was canceled possibly as a stalling tactic in order to not complete all items in the agreement.
  - Discussion on Greenbriar and wording in the subdivision covenant that “black people can work there not live there”. Discussed inviting residents who live in Greenbriar to a HRC meeting.
- Would like to have a reception in order to give an award to an individual for their work in human rights. A nomination form will be developed.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the HRC will be held on June 12, 2012.

### **Adjourn**

Motion was made by Darnel Frost and seconded by Stacy Reliford to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.

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**Romona Miller, Secretary**