



HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Minutes

July 9, 2013

6:30 p.m.

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

Present:

Margaret Duwe
Darnel Frost
Denis Hart
Genevieve Hodges
John Hoffmann
Romona Miller
Tere Owens

Absent:

Ed Johnston
Greta Todd

City Council Liaison:

Council Member Bob Sears - absent

Staff Liaison:

Chief Administrative Officer Mike Brown

Other:

Kathie Valentine, Administration

Visitors:

Sue Ann McAvoy, Cristian Stevens

Roll Call

Roll call was taken with attendance reflected above.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Darnel Frost and seconded by Maggie Duwe to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2013 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Visitor Comments

No comments were made.

Pamela Coaxum, St. Charles Human Relations Committee

Darnel Frost introduced Pamela Coaxum who provided information on the St. Charles Human Relations Committee. Some items noted were:

- Formed in 2008 in order to provide information and referrals to citizens.
- Marketing has been difficult.
- No official concerns have been submitted to their committee.
- They have a website with a video on diversity.
- Some events include:

- Annual human relations award
- Fair Housing symposium (partnered with the Fair Housing Commission).
Advised that the Fair Housing Commission can provide coloring books and other giveaways.
- Art contest
- Advised that she is experienced in grant applications and offered to assist the HRC.

A Human Rights Best Practice session will be provided by Ms. Coaxum at the upcoming HRC conference.

The importance of the various regional human rights commissions/committees working together was stressed.

Report of City Council Liaison

Council Member Sears was out of town on business. In his absence, Chief Administrative Officer Mike Brown advised that although permits have been drawn, the accessibility improvement work at the post office had not yet begun. It should begin shortly.

LGBT Enforcement Flow Chart Update

Discussions are ongoing with the Mayor and City Council regarding the LGBT enforcement flow chart. Discussion was held at the June 20 Council work session with not all Council members in favor. The debate will continue with anticipation of a positive outcome.

Conference

The HRC subcommittee met on June 26 with the following overview provided:

- Paraquad (disabilities), NAMI (mental health), Antidefamation League (racism), Promo (sexual orientation) will be invited to participate.
- Romona Miller has secured a lecture hall and four classrooms at the high school for breakout sessions.
- Present awards (4) to individuals in the following groups. Noted that awardees need to be chosen quickly and do not have to be from Kirkwood.
 - Disability
 - Sexual origin
 - Race relations
 - Mental health
- Keynote speaker(s) need to be selected as soon as possible. Some suggestions were:
 - Starsky Wilson – Deaconess Foundation President
 - Jimmie Edwards – Family Courts Judge
 - Sister Antona Ebo – Civil Rights Leader
 - Others also to be considered.
- Invite other human rights organizations/boards to the event.
- If Continuing education credits will be provided Chief Plummer will try to send officers to the conference.
- Genevieve Hodges - theme.
- Greta Todd - refreshments.

- Beth von Behren needs information by August 1 for inclusion on the utility bills.
- Tere Owens recommended that Christi Griffin (founder and President of the Ethics Project) be invited to participate.

A subcommittee meeting was planned for July 22 at 9:00 a.m. at Kirkwood City Hall. (Subcommittee members: Darnel Frost, Greta Todd, Romona Miller, Maggie Duwe, Genevieve Hodges, and Denis Hart)

Strategic Planning

Denis Hart was assigned to various areas of the strategic plan. An updated copy of the plan will be provided to the Commission.

A special meeting to discuss the strategic plan will be set.

Upcoming Meetings

A subcommittee meeting was planned for July 22, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. at Kirkwood City Hall for conference planning purposes.

The next regular meeting of the Human Rights Commission will be held on August 13, 2013 at Kirkwood City Hall.

Adjourn

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

Romona Miller, Secretary