



HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
Minutes
August 13, 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
Ed Johnston
Tere Owens
Greta Todd

Absent:

Romona Miller

City Council Liaison:

Council Member Bob Sears

Staff Liaison:

Chief Administrative Officer Mike Brown

Other:

Kathie Valentine, Administration

Visitors:

Dr. Christi Griffin, Founder of The Ethics Project
Joe McAvoy

Roll Call

Roll call was taken with attendance reflected above.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Darnel Frost and seconded by John Hoffmann to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2013 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Visitor Comments

No comments were made.

Dr. Christi Griffin, The Ethics Project

Dr. Griffin attended the meeting at the invitation of HRC member Tere Owens. Dr. Griffin explained that The Ethics Project strives to educate the public and increase the ethics of lawyers,

prosecutors, public defenders and judges. They also provide links to Innocence Projects to address wrongful prosecutions and partner with concerned individuals and agencies to address incarcerations and their impact on the community.

Report of City Council Liaison

Council Member Sears reported that the Council had been busy with the moratorium issue, explaining that they are seeking a cohesive plan.

Post Office Update

Mike Brown reported that the assist door has been installed but that they continue to experience continued deficiencies with the ramp with the slope being out of tolerance which the contractor will be rectifying. Additionally, the striping color will be changed from white to blue.

LGBT Enforcement Flow Chart Update

The Commission inquired if the Council had held any new discussions on LGBT enforcement flow chart. Mike Brown explained that the Mayor and Council set the work session agendas and that he would take the Commission's concerns back to the Council.

HRC Conference

- Representatives from The Anti-Defamation League, Paraquad, NAMI, and PROMO will facilitate breakout sessions at the conference being held on October 19.
- Darnel Frost will contact the United Way regarding participation.
- A stipend should be paid to Rev. Starsky Wilson.
- At this time Great Harvest and St. Louis Bread Company have offered to donate cookies. McArthur's Bakery has been also contacted regarding donating cookies but needs a copy of the flyer before committing.
- Discussed in the future holding the conference at the community center. Also discussed the concept holding several small events instead of one big one.
- Awards will be given in the following 4 categories: mental health, disabilities, sexual origin, and race relations. A decision on the award recipients needs to be made quickly.
- In 2014 seek nominations from the public for awards.
- A subcommittee (Denis Hart, Tere Owens, Romona Miller) was formed for the selection of award recipients.
- There was discussion on other area Human Rights Commission's role at the conference. After discussion it was decided that they would be invited to the conference but that no "best practice" session would be held. It is anticipated that the Kirkwood HRC will attend some of the other groups meetings in the future in order to collaborate with them.

Application Partnership Request

Darnel Frost explained that he had been contacted by Tammy Carlyle of the Missouri Commission on Human Rights requesting that the City of Kirkwood Human Rights Commission partner with them in applying for funding being made available through HUD. If funded, \$1,000 would be designated for Kirkwood in carrying out fair housing related activities in the community. A copy of a proposed letter to the Missouri Human Rights Commission agreeing to partner with them was distributed to the Commission. It was the consensus of the Commission to proceed with a couple of revisions to the letter being made.

Greta Todd noted that the use of federal money is highly regulated. A subcommittee of Darnel Frost, Maggie Duwe and Denis Hart was formed for this process.

Professional Development Application

Maggie Duwe distributed a copy of the Application for Professional Development for continuing education credits. She explained that the application process was very time consuming and that she did not anticipate that the conference would qualify. Tere Owens suggested that she call the office first to discuss the conference. Biographies of the presenters should be provided in the application process. Maggie Duwe and Tere Owens will work together on this task.

Other

- After discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission to not have a booth at the Kirkwood/Oakland Day Out event or the Greentree Festival.
- Asked that Public Information Officer Beth von Behren update the HRC brochure with a possible new design.

Upcoming Meetings

A strategic planning meeting was scheduled for September 9, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at Kirkwood City Hall.

The next regular meeting of the Human Rights Commission will be held on September 10, 2013 at Kirkwood City Hall.

Adjourn

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

Romona Miller, Secretary