



HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
Minutes
September 10, 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
Greta Todd

Absent:

Ed Johnston

City Council Liaison:

Council Member Bob Sears

Staff Liaison:

Chief Administrative Officer Mike Brown

Other:

Kathie Valentine, Administration

Visitors:

Joe McAvoy

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 August 13, 2013 meeting as amended. All in favor, motion carried.

Visitor Comments

Joe McAvoy spoke on recent incidents in Meacham Park and the need for continued dialogue, suggesting that a monthly report on needs by residents be provided to the HRC.

Darnel Frost advised that he had met with Harriett Patton and that he will also be meeting with members of Eliot Chapel. Romona Miller stated that there are certain individuals who are creating problems in the area, that there has been a lot of effort given to try to help them, but that some young people are not accepting and that there have to be consequences. She also advised that there has to be community acceptance as a portion of the community does not want a police

presence. Genevieve Hodges also spoke of problems in Meacham Park and expressed frustrations she is experiencing.

Report of City Council Liaison

- Council Member Sears advised that he strives to keep a presence in the Meacham Park neighborhood and that he meets with residents in the area.
- He reported that there had been an unprecedented community involvement regarding the moratorium area at Manchester Road and Kirkwood Road with residents in the area providing input, and that a RFP will be sent.

Report of Chief Administrative Officer

- Mike Brown advised that with the assistance of a facilitator, Bruce Hilton, he has met with Harriett Patton in an effort to improve the relationship between the city and the Meacham Park Neighborhood Association. These meetings will continue on the same one-on-one basis. The Mayor will attend the regularly scheduled neighborhood meetings when his schedule permits.
- Mike Brown reported that the contractor problems regarding the parking lot improvements at the post office continue and that the Engineering Technician is speaking with them weekly in an attempt to resolve the problem. Council Member Sears advised that the Council had received correspondence from a woman who was having difficulties maneuvering at the post office and that he was happy to be able to tell her that the HRC is working to improve the disabled parking at that location.

LGBT Enforcement Flow Chart Update

The Commission asked that an update be provided regarding the status of the LGBT enforcement discussions.

HRC Conference

Items discussed were:

- Conference budget - \$2,500
- Starsky Wilson stipend - \$500
- The building will be open for set up at 12:30 p.m.
- Awards
\$300 to \$375 budgeted.
HRC Service Appreciation Award, date and name to be included.
Award recipients – Rev. Bennett (race relations), Tom Gaither-Ganim (mental health), Carol Gilster (disability), Andrew Shaughnessy (LGBT Community)
- Flyers: Are being distributed to all families in the school district. Darnel Frost will ask Rev. Bennett to distribute the flyer to churches in the area.
- Booths: Kirkwood Library, Paraquad, PROMO, Anti-Defamation League, NAMI, CFUH, and possibly the United Way.
- Romona Miller - pick up conference supplies at city hall.
- Greta Todd – conference snacks.
- Denis Hart – conference evaluation form.
- Beth von Behren should be contacted regarding the program.

Upcoming Meetings

The next regular meeting of the Human Rights Commission will be held on October 8, 2013 at Kirkwood City Hall. Agenda item to be added: HRC Awards Guideline.

Adjourn

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

Romona Miller, Secretary