



**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
Minutes
January 13, 2014
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
Tere Owens
Greta Todd

Absent:

Romona Miller
Ed Johnston

City Council Liaison:

Council Member Bob Sears - Absent

Staff Liaison:

Chief Administrative Officer Mike Brown - Absent

Other:

Kathie Valentine, Administration

Visitors:

Joe McAvoy

Roll Call

Roll call was taken with attendance reflected above.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Tere Owens and seconded by Maggie Duwe to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2013 meeting as amended. All in favor, motion carried.

Visitor Comments

Joe McAvoy commented that he felt the commission should focus on the needs of the Meacham Park neighborhood and that there are concerns with youth in the area. He had also brought a book published in 1963 containing information on the Human Rights Commission and Fair Housing Law.

Darnel Frost advised that joint community meetings with the Citizens for Understanding and Hope, the Meacham Park Neighborhood Improvement Association, citizens in the area, along with some HRC members are being held. The next joint meeting is scheduled for February 3. It was requested that going forward the joint meetings topic be added to HRC agendas.

Report of City Council Liaison

None.

Report of Chief Administrative Officer

None.

End of Year Report

The HRC Year End Report will be presented at the January 16, 2014 city Council meeting.

Essay Contest

Information on the essay contest has been distributed to Vianney, Ursuline and Kirkwood High School with the essays due on February 7, 2014.

Strategic Plan

Strategic Plan assignments were made. A revised copy of the Strategic Plan will be distributed to commission members by Denis Hart.

There was discussion on HRC members attending meetings of various organizations and reporting back to the commission. Some organizations mentioned were: Meacham Park Neighborhood Improvement Association, Community for Understanding and Hope, Ministerial Alliance, Chaplain's Group, Kirkwood High School Social Justice and Gay/Straight Alliance, Cultural Leadership, Paraquad, National Alliance on Mental Illness, and possibly groups supporting the elderly.

It was suggested that the Fair Housing grant be added to the strategic plan.

HRC Conference

A subcommittee was formed in order to bring conference ideas to the HRC. Subcommittee members are: Greta Todd, Denis Hart, Genevieve Hodges, and Darnel Frost. The first meeting was scheduled for January 27, 2014.

HRC Brochure

Greta Todd offered to contact Public Information Beth von Behren regarding updating the brochure.

Other

Darnel Frost mentioned that Ed Johnston was interested in asking Paul Coutinho to speak at the February meeting. It was noted that the February agenda was full. Darnel Frost advised he would contact Ed Johnston in order to obtain more details on the presentation and/or training Mr. Coutinho could provide.

Tere Owens suggested that Rebecca Wiederkehr and Lee Potts be considered for diversity training (Witnessing White).

Upcoming Meetings

A subcommittee meeting was scheduled for January 27, 2014 for conference planning purposes with the location to be determined.

The next meeting of the Human Rights Commission will be held on Monday, February 11, 2014 at Kirkwood City Hall.

Adjourn

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

Romona Miller, Secretary

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