

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Minutes

March 11, 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
Ed Johnston
Tere Owens
Greta Todd

Absent:

Romona Miller

City Council Liaison:

Council Member Bob Sears – Absent

Staff Liaison:

Chief Administrative Officer Mike Brown

Other:

Kathie Valentine, Administration

Visitors:

None

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 February 11, 2014 meeting as amended. All in favor, motion carried.

Visitor Comments

None.

Report of City Council Liaison

None.

Report of Chief Administrative Officer

None.

Strategic Plan Reports

B.2 – It was noted that there had been a meeting at Eliot Chapel with MNIA and CFUH groups in attendance with discussion being held regarding collaborating on community work. Pat Clark is meeting with Mathew Dickey Boys School and Herbert Hoover Boys & Girls Club regarding a possible outreach program in Meacham Park. Maggie Duwe and Denis Hart had also attended an advisory meeting of the Missouri Commission on Human Rights. There was discussion on training and education, sharing minutes from various HRC group meetings and information on bills being considered in the current session. The advisory group will again meet on the first Wednesday in May. It was noted that Tere Owens would contact NAMI.

B.6 – Ed Johnston will contact Paul Coutinho regarding speaking at an upcoming HRC meeting. Commission members would also like Chief Plummer, Harriet Patton, Barbara Gadon, and members of Moms of Meacham to attend an upcoming meeting(s).

C.2 – There was discussion on the HRC holding a smaller events this year (town hall meetings). Tabari Coleman and Peter Wilson will be contacted regarding possible participation. Parameters need to be set regarding the meeting. It was noted that instead of holding a separate meeting that they could consider collaborating with Eliot Chapel. It was recommended that a date be set, as well as making other pertinent decisions.

H.1 – Denis Hart had spoken to Tammy Carlyle, Missouri Commission on Human Rights, regarding the procedure to draw down funds from the Fair Housing Grant. The grant can be used for Fair Housing Training and Fair Housing initiatives such as a Fair Housing presentation for the Commission or the community. Denis noted that a conference will be held on April 4 at the History Museum entitled “Breaking Down the Barriers to Housing Opportunities: A Community Workshop” and encouraged members to attend. Other upcoming training events are: Fair Housing Accessibility hosted by the MCHR and the Urban League, National Center for Lesbian Rights –hosted by MCHR, Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing – hosted by the St. Louis Civil Rights Enforcement Agency, Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing – hosted by the National Community Reinvestment Coalition. Additionally, the National Fair Housing Training Academy offers fair housing training opportunities.

Essay Contest Scoring

Commission members were asked to e-mail their scoring results to Darnel Frost. Awards will be presented at the April 3 City Council meeting.

LGBT Ordinance

A date for further discussing the LGBT ordinance at a City Council work session has not been set. It is felt that the Council is concerned regarding its complexity and that they HRC may want to consider some alternatives. Maggie Duwe will contact Council Member Sears to discuss.

HRC Brochure

Greta Todd requested that she be contacted with any revision to the draft brochure by the end of the week. She will then contact Beth von Behren regarding printing.

Other

Citizens in the Meacham Park neighborhood seem to be confused about the purpose of the police substation. It was recommended that Chief Plummer be invited to an upcoming HRC meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the HRC will be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at Kirkwood City Hall.

Adjourn

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

Romona Miller, Secretary

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