



HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Minutes

April 8, 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
John Hoffmann
Ed Johnston
Tere Owens
Greta Todd

Absent:

Genevieve Hodges
Romona Miller

City Council Liaison:

Council Member Bob Sears

Staff Liaison:

Acting Chief Administrative Officer Georgia Ragland

Other:

Kathie Valentine, Administration

Visitors:

Dorothy Welty, Louis and Angie Menard, Rebecca Wiederkehr,
Lee Potts, Claire Robertson

Roll Call

Roll call was taken with attendance reflected above.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Darnel Frost and seconded by Ed Johnston to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2014 meeting as amended. All in favor, motion carried.

Visitor Comments

The visitors were in attendance to hear speaker Paul Coutinho.

Paul Coutinho

Paul Coutinho attended the meeting and spoke on “Transforming Society”.

Report of City Council Liaison

Council Member Sears reported that interviews for the Chief Administrative Officer position had taken place.

He advised that no new items would be placed on the Council agenda until May as elections were taking place.

Report of Acting Chief Administrative Officer

Georgia Ragland reported that the Fair Housing grant money had not yet been received. She will handle processing of payments from the grant.

Strategic Plan Reports

A.2 – Maggie Duwe reported that she had met with Beth von Behren (Public Information Officer) regarding the anonymous complaint form that had been developed by the community group. The form had been developed in order for citizens to be able to report on issues without fear of retaliation. Once finalized and approved, the form can be distributed in various ways.

A.4 – Nothing to report. Tabled until the May meeting.

C.2 – Commission members discussed the concept of having speakers at HRC meetings, possibly in lieu of holding annual conferences. Greta Todd advised that she had spoken to Peter Wilson (Educational Equity Consultants) and that she would like to ask him to attend a meeting of the HRC to explain what they are doing in Webster Groves. Denis Hart reported on a couple of upcoming meetings – June 13, the Missouri Commission of Human Rights, one day training on Lesbian Rights; September, the Civil Rights Enforcement Agency will hold a conference on fair housing. It was noted that the Fair Housing grant money has to be used by September 30.

LGBT Ordinance

Maggie Duwe will contact Council Member Sears to discuss the ordinance status.

HRC Brochure

Greta Todd will contact Beth von Behren regarding printing.

Other

Upcoming Speakers

- Greta Todd will contact Peter Wilson and invite him to attend the May meeting.
- Chief Plummer will be asked to attend the June HRC meeting.

Symposiums

- Are they working?
- What are they accomplishing?
- Would a mini-educational series, in conjunction with HRC meetings, be better? Brand them as a “speaker series” not an individual events.

Community Group Meeting

The next community group meeting will be held on April 9 at 6:00 p.m. at Eliot Chapel.

Hearing Impaired

Maggie Duwe expressed concerns for a neighbor who is hearing impaired and cannot hear warning sirens. Denis Hart will get information on where to obtain phones that have a strobe light and vibrate.

Meacham Park Neighborhood Improvement Association

Denis Hart advised that he had attended a MNIA meeting and reported that they have a good website.

Crossing Big Bend

Denis Hart reported that he would be attending one of their meetings and that he would report back to the HRC.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the HRC will be held on Tuesday, May 13, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. 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

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