

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Minutes

September 9, 2014

6:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Darnel Frost.

Present:

Margaret Duwe
Jacob Fiene
Darnel Frost
Denis Hart
Josh Lewis

Absent:

Ed Johnston
Romona Miller
Tere Owens

City Council Liaison:

Council Member Bob Sears

Staff Liaison:

Chief Administrative Officer Russell Hawes

Other:

Kathie Valentine, Administration

Visitors:

None

Roll Call

Roll call was taken with attendance reflected above.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Maggie Duwe and seconded by Denis Hart to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2014 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Report of City Council Liaison

Council Member Sears reported that:

- The Greentree Parade would take place on Saturday, September 13 beginning at 10 a.m.

- The installation of the cell tower at the intersection of Manchester Road and Kirkwood Road had been approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission.
- Fresh Thyme's preliminary development plan and the CVS site plan have been approved.
- Discussions continue regarding the proposed relocation of electrical lines/utility poles on Quan near Tillman School.

Strategic Plan Reports

After discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission to schedule a special meeting of the HRC near the end of the year in order to update the strategic plan, and make strategic plan assignments.

B.2 – Denis Hart frequently attends the Kirkwood Neighbors United community group meetings. He advised that he would give a report at the October HRC meeting on the fair housing conference he will attend in Kansas City. Maggie Duwe distributed information on the St. Louis 250 Diversity Group meetings she attends. She explained that the group is striving to connect existing Human Rights and Human Relations Commissions. Maggie also advised that David Bennett, along with others, plan to sponsor a showing of the Eulogy to Connie film.

B.3 – At the last Commission meeting an Art Fair subcommittee was formed. Darnel Frost advised that he intends to hold a meeting of the subcommittee within the next couple of weeks.

B.4 – Tabled.

B.5 – It is the intention of the Commission to hold the Art Fair instead of having an essay contest this year. Josh Lewis stated that he is also in support of students writing and questioned if they could do both. There was discussion on having students write or paint to a theme.

B.6 – Commission members frequently invite community leaders to the HRC meetings. Darnel Frost plans to invite David Bennett to the October meeting to speak on his work in Ferguson.

C.2 – There are no plans at this time to hold a HRC conference this year in light of the amount of work it will take for the Art Fair.

H.1 – Denis Hart reported that his trip to Kansas City for the fair housing conference would use approximately \$400 of the grant money. The grant money should be used by September 30th,

although if they have a commitment they most likely could use the funds into October. Denis asked Russ Hawes if city staff could possibly attend some type of fair housing meeting in order to use the funds. Jacob Fiene suggested contacting a consultant to hold a workshop for HRC members, but due to time constraints it was thought that might not be possible at this time.

LGBT Ordinance

It is the intention of Council Member Sears to encourage the City Council to direct John Hessel to put the flow chart into words for the proposed enforcement of the ordinance. He believes that although it is very difficult and involved, that there should be some type of enforcement and that he would ask that the subject be added to an upcoming City Council work session. Josh Lewis offered his assistance.

Other

- Darnel Frost, who grew up in Ferguson, reported that he had spoken on the recent events there last Sunday at the United Methodist Church, as well as being interviewed by the Post-Dispatch and Kirkwood Call.
- The Board and Commission Reception will be held on September 25th at Sunset 44.
- Board and Commission training will be held on October 29th at city hall. A copy of the new Board and Commission Training Policy was provided.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the HRC will be held on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. at Kirkwood City Hall.

Adjourn

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

Tere Owens, Secretary