

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Minutes

June 9, 2015

6:30 p.m.

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

Present:

Bob Boyd
Morris Fletcher
Denis Hart
Ron Hodges
Josh Lewis
Tere Owens
William Winter

Absent:

Darnel Frost
Romona Miller

City Council Liaison:

Council Member Bob Sears - Absent

Staff Liaison:

Chief Administrative Officer Russell Hawes – Absent

Others in Attendance:

Mayor Art McDonnell

Visitors:

Beth Griffith

Roll Call

Denis Hart called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken with attendance reflected above.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Tere Owens and seconded by Ron Hodges to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2015 meeting as amended. All in favor, motion carried.

Visitor Comments

- City Planner Ryan Spencer attended the meeting to speak on EnVision 2035.

- Beth Griffith, Eliot Chapel member, attended the meeting on behalf of Rev. Barbara Gadon. They would like to propose that a conversation take place this summer with Chief Plummer regarding KPD policing practices. A detailed handout was provided which included information from the State of Missouri, 2014 Annual Report on Vehicle Stops, racial profiling data, and the 2014 Statewide Summary of Results.

Ron Hodges would like something put in place to monitor police practices and suggested the HRC help the KPD by educating youth about what to do or not do when pulled over by police. Denis Hart suggested that the above proposal be discussed in July and if the HRC approves an initiative to include it in our Strategic Plan.

- The Mayor reported that the budget had passed, that the street issue is being addressed, and that the LGBT proposal will most likely be presented for approval in July.

Strategic Plan Reports

A.3 – Bob Boyd reported that the HRC can utilize part of the October utility bill.

C.1 – This item will be addressed in July.

C.2 – No update. Bob Boyd suggested holding an essay contest with St. Louis Community College – Meramec.

C.3 – Ron Hodges recommended that Rev. Sterman, of the Kirkwood Baptist Church, be considered as a candidate for an award for bringing communities together and fostering social justice. Rev Sterman has left Kirkwood for another assignment.

F.1 – No update.

G.4 – 130 individuals responded to the disability survey. The St. Louis ARC has been contacted and will help review the responses.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on July 14, 2014.

Agenda Items for Discussion:

- October utility bill insert.
- Essay contest with St. Louis Community College – Meramec
- Consideration of candidates for awards for their work in addressing social justice and human rights.

- Position of the HRC in addressing the issue of racial profiling, and if there is agreement, add another action item to the Strategic Plan.
- Commission training.

Adjourn

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

Tere Owens, Secretary