



## HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

### Minutes

April 12, 2016

6:30 p.m.

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

**Present:**

Robert Boyd  
Morris Fletcher  
Darnel Frost, Chair  
Denis Hart  
Jill Johnson  
Josh Lewis  
Amanda Sher  
William Winter

**Absent:**

Ron Hodges

**City Council Liaison:**

Council Member Bob Sears - Absent

**Chief Administrative Officer:** Russ Hawes

**Other:**

Kathie Valentine, City of Kirkwood Administration Department  
Anne Carroll, Special School District  
Brandi Martine, John Hoffman, Kirkwood Neighbors United

**Roll Call**

Roll call was taken with attendance reflected above.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion was made by Morris Fletcher and seconded by Denis Hart to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2016 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

**Comments – Russ Hawes**

Russ Hawes advised that Chief Plummer was compiling information regarding policing that had been requested by Morris Fletcher and also Rev. Gadon (Eliot Unitarian Chapel). He had met with Denis Hart regarding the Disability Survey. The new Mayor and City Council members will be sworn in on Thursday, April 28.

### **Essay Contest**

Awards will be presented to the essay contest winners at the April 21<sup>st</sup> City Council meeting.

There was discussion regarding some of the student's essays reflecting self-imposed segregation while at school. Denis Hart advised that he had drafted a letter to the R7 Superintendent of Schools regarding the concerns reflected in some of the essays. Jill Johnson and Amanda Sher offered to review the draft letter prior to it being sent.

William Winter distributed a proposal (copy attached) that he had drafted asking the principals of Kirkwood High School, Vianney, and Ursuline to appoint a teacher or counselor to bring three students to a bi-monthly meeting in order to discuss bullying, cliques, LGBT discrimination, and discrimination in AP classes. It was the consensus of the Commission to take no action on the proposal at this time as it was felt it was necessary to establish a relationship prior to offering a proposal.

Morris Fletcher expressed concerns that the Commission could be overstepping their bounds by getting involved in school board issues. Darnel Frost felt that the Commission would only be providing information to the school as well as it being a relationship building process.

### **Disability Survey Presentation**

A list of recommendations drawn from the Disability Survey were presented. A Summary of Recommendations is attached.

### **Strategic Plan Reports**

Motion was made by Bob Boyd and seconded by Amanda Sher to table the Strategic Plan reports to the May meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

### **HRC First Quarter Report**

A copy of the HRC First Quarter Report was distributed (copy attached).

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the HRC will be held on May 10, 2016.

**Adjourn**

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

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Robert Boyd, Secretary