

**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

**Minutes**

**November 9, 2016**

**6:30 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Denis Hart.

**Present:**

Morris Fletcher  
Denis Hart, Chair  
Jill Johnson  
Josh Lewis  
Judy Moticka  
Amanda Sher, Secretary  
William Winter

**Absent:**

Robert Boyd, Vice Chair  
Ron Hodges

**City Council Liaison:**

Council Member Bob Sears - Absent

**Chief Administrative Officer:**

Russ Hawes

**Other:**

Kathie Valentine, Administration

**Visitors:**

Larry Long, Geoff Morrison, Kevin Jenkins

**Roll Call**

Roll call was taken with attendance reflected above.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion was made by Amanda Sher and seconded by William Winter to approve the minutes of the October 11, 2016 meeting as amended. All in favor, motion carried.

**Visitors Comment**

Kevin Jenkins attended the meeting to report that the walk light at Big Bend and Kirkwood Road is too short. St. Louis County will be contacted as they have jurisdiction over the light.

**Strategic Plan Reports**

A.2 – Amanda Sher advised that she had nothing to report. Denis Hart reported that the Disabilities Survey Group met 11-26 with Beth von Behren working to develop a user friendly site on the City's ADA & Support Services webpage. They will meet again in December.

B.2 – William Winter reported that Concordia Lutheran Church will hand out 1,000 turkeys to the needy and that he had disseminated information in Meacham Park area. Amanda Sher offered to place information on the HRC Facebook page.

D.2 – Denis Hart, Morris Fletcher and Jill Johnson had attended the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Missouri Human Rights Conference that was held on November 4 in Kansas City. The agenda included information on hate crimes, human trafficking, fair housing and employment discrimination. Morris Fletcher asked if the City of Kirkwood submits a report to HUD, which is required every five years, regarding fair housing. Russ Hawes responded that he was not aware that the city prepared that type of report. Morris Fletcher will send Russ Hawes the information he received for review. G.2 - Work on the ADA and Support Services tab on the City's website is progressing. (See A.2 above)

### **Update on the Good Stop/Bad Stop Dramatization**

Judy Moticka reported that she had been in contact with Jessica Winingham (Lindbergh School District) who was quite interested in working with the Commission and the Kirkwood Police Department to develop and present a skit about traffic stops that could be presented at school assemblies as well as at other community-wide events.

Commission members expressed concerns regarding the objective/goal of the skit as well as the considerable amount of time and scope of the work. It was noted that Geoff Morrison (Retired Kirkwood Police Department) had advised that films on this subject were already available. It was noted that they should decide as a Commission whether or not to proceed with the project. Judy Moticka was asked to put the topic in writing defining the goal, participants, resources, audience, etc. She appreciated the input and will report back to the HRC in December.

### **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Missouri Human Rights Conference**

In addition to what had been previously discussed during the meeting under Strategic Plan Reports D.2, Denis Hart asked Alisa Warren, Executive Director of the Missouri Human Rights Commission, if she would attend one of our HRC meetings and that it was his intention to invite her to the February 2017 meeting. He also met with Toni Dupree of Ferguson and learned that the Regional HRC Group (Bellefontaine Neighbors, Dellwood, Ferguson, Kirkwood and St Charles) intends to begin meeting again after the first of the year.

Next year the conference will be held in Columbia, Missouri.

### **Disability Seminar Discussion**

Discussion on this topic was delayed to the December meeting.

### **Other Comments**

Morris Fletcher was assigned by the Chair to coordinate the HRC's involvement in next year's Greentree Festival

Jill Johnson was assigned by the Chair to coordinate the HRS involvement with the MLK celebration in January

All Commissioners were reminded again to review and comment on the draft Annual Report that Bob has emailed to everyone. We will approve it in December. The fourth quarter report will be submitted prior to our December meeting.

### **Matters Pending/To Be Scheduled**

- Review and comment on draft Annual Report.
- Barbara Gadon, Eliot Chapel, presentation on policing - December.
- Kirkwood High School's role with the HRC - January
- A meeting date was tentatively scheduled on January 7, from noon to approximately 3:30 p.m., at the Kirkwood Community Center for review of the HRC Strategic Plan.
- Morris Fletcher requested that the Summary of Duties and Responsibilities (the Revised: May 2015 edition) of the Commission be reviewed.
- Awaiting word from Thomas Williams, School Superintendent Kirkwood School District, who will initiate HRC's involvement with the planned school "equity walks" that came out of the Achievement Gap Report
- Guest speakers for 2017:
  - January - Romona Miller, Assistant Principal and KHS Students
  - February - Alisa Warren, Executive Director of the Missouri Commission on Human Rights
  - Winter - Loretta Bryant Executive Director of the Midwest Braille Volunteers

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

### **Adjourn**

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

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Amanda Sher, Secretary