



**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**  
**AGENDA**  
**March 10 at 6:00 p.m.**  
**CITY HALL | Main Level Conference Room**

- I. Call to Order – David Hartung, Chair**
- II. Roll Call – Carolyn Becker, Secretary**
- III. Approval of February 10, 2026 Meeting Minutes**
- IV. City Council Liaison Comments**
- V. Chief Administrator / Staff Liaison Comments**
- VI. Visitor Welcome / Public Comment**
- VII. Old Business**
  - A. Debrief on presentation of Annual Report on Feb. 19th
  - B. School Lunch Debt – Community Partnerships and Next Steps
    - Update on meeting with Parent Equity group
    - Status of outreach to Kirkwood School District Foundation
    - High school lunch debt policy discussion and potential meeting with school staff
    - Meeting with Keysor PTO
    - Possible awareness and fundraising strategies
  - C. Speaker Event – Justice Michael Wolff
    - Confirmation of event date (May 18<sup>th</sup>) and venue at the Kirkwood Performing Arts Center
    - Event format and promotion strategy
    - Outreach to universities, legal organizations, and community partners
  - D. Essay Contest – Submission Status
    - Update on submissions received
    - Initial planning for judging and timeline for winner selection
- VIII. New Business**
  - A. Student Volunteer / Social Media Liaison Proposal
    - Discussion of partnership opportunity with Kirkwood High School marketing students
    - Possible service-hour volunteer role to assist with KHRC communications and outreach
  - B. Community Engagement Opportunities
    - Recap or updates from community events and outreach opportunities
- IX. Agenda for next meeting (April 14, 2026)**

**Kirkwood Human Rights Commission Members:** Chair David Hartung; Vice-Chair Nicole Goldkamp; Secretary Carolyn Becker; Members: Sheila Burkett, Michelle Cole, Sandra Green, Beth Heuermann, Joan Van Rees, and Jeanne Webdell; Council Liaison Mark McLean

**Contact Information:** For full Human Rights Commission contact information, please call Communications Manager Jessica Winter at 314-822-5894 or email at [winterja@kirkwoodmo.org](mailto:winterja@kirkwoodmo.org).

Proposed topics: Essay Contest – judging and winner announcement planning; Speaker Event – promotional progress and logistics; School Lunch Debt – continued coordination with district partners; additional items proposed by Commissioners

**X. Adjourn**



**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 10, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.**  
**CITY HALL | Main Level Conference Room**

**Members Present**

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David Hartung, *Chair*  
Nicole Goldkamp, *Vice-Chair*  
Carolyn Becker, *Secretary*  
Sheila Burkett  
Michelle Cole

Sandra Green  
Beth Heuermann  
Joanie Van Rees  
Jeanne Webdell

**Members Absent**

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**Council Liaison**, Mark McLean

**Other:** Jessica Winter, *Staff*

**I. Roll Call**

Roll was conducted by Secretary Becker with attendance reflected above.

**II. Approval of January 13, 2026 Meeting Minutes**

Two corrections were noted:

- Under Quarterly Meeting with Chief Murphy, Commissioner Webdell also volunteered to attend.
- In the section regarding agenda items for the next meeting, language was clarified to read "Report from subcommittee on quarterly meeting with Chief Murphy."

A motion to approve the minutes with the corrections was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**III. City Council Comments**

Council Member McLean was absent. Chair Hartung noted that Council Member McLean had informed him he would be out of town for a family matter.

**IV. Chief Administrative Officer Comments**

No report was provided.

**V. Visitor Welcome**

No visitors were present.

**VI. Old Business**

**A. School Lunch Debt – Follow-Up and Next Steps**

Commissioners discussed the recent virtual meeting with Emily Lytton, a Kirkwood School District social worker who coordinates the KSD Now (Nutrition on the Weekends) program.

Key discussion points included:

- Elementary and middle school students may continue receiving meals even if they accrue lunch debt. Meals are provided in a way that minimizes stigma.
- At the high school level, students who accumulate approximately \$5 in debt may be denied additional food purchases and certain privileges, such as participation in school activities.
- Some debts results from students purchasing items not included in the free lunch program, such as individual milk purchases.

Additional insights from the discussion included:

- Approximately 9% of Kirkwood students qualify for free or reduced lunch, representing roughly 500 students.
- Some families eligible for assistance do not apply due to stigma or misunderstanding of program eligibility.
- Debt may accumulate across multiple children in the same family, creating significant financial challenges.

Commissioners discussed potential next steps:

### **Community awareness and fundraising**

- Partnering with Kirkwood School District Foundation as a potential avenue to accept and manage donations designated for student lunch debt.
- Exploring opportunities to engage Parent Teacher Organizations (PTOs) across district schools in fundraising efforts.
- Identifying ways to raise awareness among community members who may not have children currently enrolled in the school district.

### **Collaboration with other groups**

- Commissioners noted that a Parent Equity Group may also be exploring similar solutions. Members will meet with representatives of that group to coordinate efforts and avoid duplication.

### **Next steps**

- Continue outreach to the School District Foundation regarding possible fundraising mechanisms.
- Schedule a meeting with the high school worker to better understand how lunch debt policies affect high school students.

Commissioners expressed appreciation for the work being done by school social workers and volunteers to address food insecurity among students.

**B. Quarterly Meeting with Chief Murphy - Debrief**

Chair Hartung summarized key points from the Commission’s quarterly meeting with Police Chief Brian Murphy.

Topics included:

**Department staffing and budget**

- The department is facing budget constraints and has been asked to reduce expenditures by approximately \$277,000.
- While staffing levels are currently stable, Chief Murphy indicated the long-term recruitment and retention may become challenging due to salary competition with surrounding departments.

**Citizen complaint review**

- One complaint regarding officer conduct was sustained following a review of body cam footage.
- During the investigation, supervisors identified an unrelated procedural issue involving a vehicle search. The officer received disciplinary action and additional training.

**Vehicle Stop Report**

- The Missouri Attorney General’s Office has resumed publishing the disparity index, which provides additional context for demographic traffic stop data.

**Flock license plate reader technology**

Commissioners discussed whether data from license plate reader cameras could potentially be shared with federal agencies. Members discussed the possibility of submitting a Sunshine Law request or reviewing the data-sharing policies associated with the system.

**C. Denis Hart Award – Council Presentation and Communications**

Chair Hartung thanks Commissioners who attended the City Council presentation of the 2025 Denis Hart Award recognizing Emily Kuttenkuler.

Commissioners noted the strong attendance and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to highlight the award recipient’s contributions to the community.

**D. Annual Report and Quarter Reports – Approval and Council Presentation**

Chair Hartung confirmed that the updated Annual Report incorporating previously approved revisions has been forwarded to staff and will be presented to the City Council at the upcoming meeting.

Commissioners then reviewed the Third and Fourth Quarter Reports.

Several minor edits were discussed:

- Updating Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Mapp's title in both reports.
- Revising language indicating that two Denis Hart Award nominations were received and instead referencing the selection of the award recipient.

A motion to approve the Third and Fourth Quarter Reports with the noted revisions was made and seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

**E. Speaker Event – Status Update and Outreach**

Vice-Chair Goldkamp reported that former Missouri Supreme Court Chief Justice Michael Wolff has agreed to serve as the speaker for the Commission's upcoming Due Process community event.

Because Justice Wolff is unavailable in April, the Commission will reschedule the event for May 2026, with the Kirkwood Performing Arts Center offering several possible Monday dates.

Commissioners discussed:

- Potential dates avoiding Memorial Day and other scheduling conflicts.
- Event format options, including lecture and question-and-answer discussion.
- The possibility of offering Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credit for attorneys.
- Engaging universities and legal organizations for promotion.

Once a date is confirmed, Commissioners will begin promotional outreach and coordinate with KPAC regarding registration and logistics.

**F. Essay Contest – Status Update**

The deadline for the KHRC Student Essay Contest is approaching, and no submissions had been received at the time of the meeting.

Commissioners will follow-up with:

- Kirkwood High School
- Ursuline Academy
- St. John Vianney High School

To ensure teachers and students have the contest information and submission details.

## **VII. New Business**

### **A. Pancake Dinner – February 26**

Commissioners discussed the upcoming community pancake dinner scheduled for February 26 and encouraged participation.

## **VIII. Agenda for Next Meeting (March 10, 2026)**

Tentative agenda items include:

- Essay Contest – submission status and review planning
- Speaker Event – date confirmation and promotion
- School Lunch Debt – continued coordination with community partners
- Subcommittee updates
- Additional items proposed by Commissioners

Commissioners also voted to move the March meeting start time to 6:00 p.m. to allow members to attend a community candidate forum later that evening.

## **IX. Adjournment**

With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made and seconded.  
The meeting adjourned.

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Carolyn Becker, Secretary

## **KHRC – Subcommittee Meeting Report with Rachel Scheffing, Melinda Hall, and Alex Clark at KHS**

March 3, 2026

### Current Lunch Debt Situation

- \$33,000 total district debt as of November 2025
- Students can accrue up to \$999 debt before cutoff
- High school has \$5 limit vs unlimited at elementary/middle schools
- Beginning of year sees highest debt from students transferring with existing balances

### High School Lunch Process & New System

- Students over \$5 still receive meals through visitor account
  - Administrator present at cashier to handle quietly
  - Visitor account funded every 3-4 months by school
  - No students turned away for meals (a la carte items may be restricted)
- New MOSAIC software launched today (March 3, 2026)
  - Replaces 25-year-old WebSmart system
  - Real-time tracking of which students use visitor account
  - Instant reporting enables better family follow-up
  - Digital free/reduced lunch applications now available

### Free & Reduced Lunch Program Challenges

- Major barriers to enrollment:
  1. Lack of awareness programs exist
  2. Families think they don't qualify
  3. Stigma/pride preventing applications
  4. Parents don't want children to know family struggles
- Annual reapplication required
- Success story: Mother with \$999 debt per child qualified for reduced lunch after having baby (increased household size)
- Reduced lunch costs only \$120/year per student (70 cents/day)

### Fundraising & Community Support Infrastructure

- District activity funds being established
  - Individual school accounts vs district-wide approach under discussion
  - Donations can be directed to specific schools if requested
  - Cash/check donations accepted (payable to Kirkwood School District)

- Community outreach gaps identified:
  - Alumni and non-parent residents lack donation pathways
  - No electronic donation system for community members
  - Limited communication to families who've aged out of district

#### Next Steps & Partnership Opportunities

- Human Rights Commission to support:
  - Publicizing donation opportunities at events (QR codes, paddle raises)
  - Letter to Webster Kirkwood Times to normalize/destigmatize program
  - Information tables promoting free/reduced lunch enrollment
- Rachel/KHS to follow up on:
  - Activity fund setup with Scott Harmon
  - Creating donation flyer with all contribution methods
  - Streamlining processes across all eight schools
  - Follow-up email in 1–2 weeks to discuss donation platform and community outreach strategy