



**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 9, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.**  
**CITY HALL | Main Level Conference Room**

**Members Present**

---

Geoff Morrison, Chair  
David Hartung, Vice Chair  
Margie Palazzolo, Secretary  
Carolyn Becker  
Michelle Cole  
Nicole Goldkamp  
Kelley Harris  
Paul Ward  
Jeanne Webdell

**Youth Advisory Commission:**  
Scarlet Adams

**Staff Liaison,** Russ Hawes

**Other:**  
Jessica Winter, Administration

**Members Absent**

---

**Council Liaison, Maggie Duwe**

**I. Roll Call**

Roll was taken by Margie with attendance reflected above.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Motion was made by Michelle and seconded by Carolyn to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2023 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

**III. City Council Comments**

Council Member Duwe was absent.

**IV. Chief Administrative Officer Comments**

Chief Administrative Officer Russ Hawes had nothing new to report.

**V. Old Business**

**A. MLK Event Update**

The Committee for the upcoming MLK Day event will meet on January 10 to confirm the program. This printed program is crucial to the event occurring on Monday, January 15, at 1:00 p.m., hosted in the Keating Center of Kirkwood High School. Attendants, including Commissioners David, Carolyn, Kelley, and Paul, have indicated their planned presence. Additionally, Jeanne developed the initial program and Geoff organized the set-up timing, beginning at 11:00 a.m. with guests arriving at 12:00 p.m. It was also requested that attending Commissioners wear their KHRC nametags and support with distributing Commission materials and seating services.

**B. Denis Hart Award Update**

Geoff has set plans in motion for Tom Ptacek's well-deserved award. After contacting both Tom and his nominator, Geoff has placed the order for the award with Arch Engraving. In next steps, Geoff will check Tom's availability for either a February 1 or 15 ceremony, notify the City Clerk, and include the event in the January Eye-on-Kirkwood publication for the Webster-Kirkwood Times.

**C. 2024 Essay Contest**

Geoff announced the local press covered the upcoming Essay Contest in their recent issue. He actively engaged teachers and the educational community at large, while also involving new figures from Vianney High School. Meanwhile, Kelley expressed a desire to connect with young people via channels they prefer and to ensure that homeschool groups are aware and involved in the essay event.

**D. Status of Subcommittee meeting with KSD Administrator Mapp**

David will follow-up with Dr. Mapp to schedule the meeting and will report back at the February meeting.

**E. Review proposed Discrimination Ordinance**

Motion was made by Nicole and seconded by Michelle for David to make revisions to create clearer language for the Ordinance. All in favor, motion carried.

It was suggested that a plain English summary of the Ordinance once adopted be posted on the KHRC webpage along with a link to the form.

**VI. New Business****A. Kirkwood Hair Saloon receives Employment Initiative Sticker**

Geoff said that Carolyn presented an Employment Initiative Sticker at 'The Hair Saloon'. The event took place the day after the December KHRC meeting and was detailed in the City's electronic newsletter. It is also available online on the City's website and there will be copies at the information table for the MLK Day celebration. While the Webster-Kirkwood Times has not covered it yet, it is hoped they will.

**B. Subcommittee report of meeting with Chief Murphy on 01/05**

The subcommittee meeting reviewed the Quarterly Report and noted that comprehensive annual training data will be released in a few weeks, as is customary. The main topic of discussion was the procedure for handling complaints, particularly instances where body-worn camera footage was used to verify incidents. The process involves reviewing the footage, attempting to

contact the complainant, and issuing official responses. It was suggested that such videos could be subject to public disclosure requests.

There was discussion about the Webster-Kirkwood Times' coverage of the Shop with a Cop event.

**C. Select Subcommittee to prepare April Utility flyer**

Michelle and Kelley will work on the Utility flyer. Michelle will update the original flyer she made for 2023 and update with photos and highlights from events of the past year.

**D. Review 4th Quarter Report**

The report will be up for approval at the February meeting. Geoff confirmed to David that the Annual Report is a compilation of the Quarterly Reports and will then be presented to City Council at a later date.

**E. Meeting to review Strategic Plan and Calendar**

Discussion of a date and time to review our current Strategic Plan and Calendar led to Sunday, February 18, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. as the agreed upon time for this special meeting and these will be the only items on the Agenda. Geoff said he would contact the Community Center and try to reserve a room.

**VII. Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for February 13, 2024 from 6:30 – 7:30 pm, at the City Hall, Main Level Conference Room. Items for the next meeting will include: Review MLK Event; Subcommittee Report of Meeting with Administrator Mapp; Subcommittee report regarding Utility Flyer; Approval of 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report; and, approve changes to Calendar and Strategic Plan.

**VIII. Adjourn**

Motion was made by Paul and seconded by David to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.

---

Margie Palazzolo, Secretary