

**KIRKWOOD HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (KHRC)**

**Minutes**

**July 11, 2017**

**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, City of Kirkwood Administration Department

**Visitor Introductions:**

Jeannie Webdell

**Roll Call**

Roll call was taken with attendance reflected above.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion was made by Judy Moticka and seconded by William Winter to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2017 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

**Chief Administrative Officer Comments**

Russ Hawes advised that the City had applied for an ADA grant for a sidewalk analysis and that they should know by the Fall whether or not it will be awarded to the City.

At this time, Morris Fletcher spoke regarding the upcoming Middle School Art Exhibit that will be held at the Kirkwood Public Library and advised that the library's legal counsel had reviewed the artist registration form and found no issue with it. Russ Hawes concurred. There was discussion on the Mayor attending the event. It was recommended that a letter describing the event be sent to the Mayor, that he be contacted directly by the KHRC.

Fifty nine applications have been submitted for the Police Chief position. The consultant, with the help of City staff, intends to narrow down the number of applicants with the optimal number to interview being five to twelve. There will then be a reception for residents to meet the applicants and submit comments.

### **Strategic Plan Reports**

A.1 – Posts continue to be made on the KHRC Facebook page. It was recommended that Commissioner's share the posts with their own Facebook friends.

A.4 – No Caretaker Alert Forms have recently been submitted relative to the KHRC. It was suggested that information on where the forms can be located be posted on the KHRC Facebook page.

B.1 – It is anticipated that the Regional HRC will start meeting again in the Fall. Morris Fletcher recommended that St. Louis Metropolitan Congregations United be invited to speak at an upcoming meeting as well as We Can. Denis Hart advised that he intends to invite Kirkcare to the August meeting. Jill Johnson added that she had met with Jeannie Webdell regarding the University Women's group who had offered their assistance to the KHRC on projects, such as the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (MLK) event that is held at Kirkwood High School. Jill Johnson advised that she plans to attend one of the University Women's meetings. Morris Fletcher would like artwork from the Art Exhibit be hung at the KHRC booth at the MLK event.

B.3 – Nothing to report. Judy Moticka stated that at this time Bob Boyd's focus is on planning the upcoming Abilities Symposium.

C.1 – Judy Moticka provided a handout listing the Commission's current areas of interest.

D.1 – Nothing to report.

E.2 – A draft copy of the KHRC second quarter report was distributed. Commissioners were asked to e-mail Bob Boyd their remarks on suggested revisions that had not yet been made to the report.

I.2 – A copy of the Kirkwood Police Department Second Quarter Report to the KHRC was distributed at the meeting. Denis Hart noted:

- He and Jill Johnson intend to meet with Captain Brian Murphy regarding the report format in order to simplify the diversity and de-escalation training segment. They also intend to have a discussion regarding the number of officers who have received the required annual training on this topic.

J.3 – Town Hall meetings with the Kirkwood School District have been put on hold due to the search for a superintendent. Judy Moticka informed the Commission that the district had appointed an interim superintendent for the 2017 – 2018 school year. The interim superintendent will be contacted to see if the district still plans to hold town hall meetings.

Exhibit B.1 – Nothing to report. William Winter provided information on the Walk A Thon scheduled for Saturday, July 15 in Meacham Park and stated that the Pride in Our Parks events in Meacham Park have been quite successful this summer.

### **Abilities Forum/Symposium**

Bob Boyd had provided a copy of the draft proposal for the Abilities Forum/Symposium. Comments and/or ideas regarding the event should be e-mailed to Bob.

### **Greentree Update**

Morris Fletcher provided a handout with information regarding the KHRC's Greentree booth. After discussion, it was decided that the booth would not be staffed on Friday evening. Commissioners will be asked to sign up to staff the booth on Saturday and Sunday. Information on KHRC events/activities should be available at the booth, as well as copies of their brochure and the Neighborhood Caretaker Alert forms.

### **Art Exhibit**

The Commission complimented Morris Fletcher on his work in organizing the event. Judy Moticka advised that she has been in contact with teacher's at the Kirkwood School District who have expressed an interest in the event. She will also be contacting the private schools. There was discussion on the hanging of art work with it being noted that it can be placed on cardboard with a string attached on the back for hanging. The Kirkwood Public Library will send out a press release regarding the event.

### **Human Rights Award**

Amanda Sher reminded the Commission that the deadline for award nominations had been extended to July 28.

Following the award guidelines, the award subcommittee will meet in August and will then present their recommendations to the Commission in September for their approval.

**Matters pending include:**

- Mediation Agreement Review and City HRC Ordinances to be reviewed in August/September
- Greentree Update
- Abilities/Aging in Place Website and Symposium
- KHRC Award
- 2017 Middle School Art Exhibit
- Kirkcare Presentation

**Upcoming Meeting**

The next meeting of the HRC will be held on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

**Adjourn**

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

---

Amanda Sher, Secretary