



KIRKWOOD HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Minutes

October 10, 2017

6:30 p.m.

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

Present

Robert Boyd, Vice Chair
Morris Fletcher
Denis Hart, Chair
Jill Johnson
Josh Lewis
Judy Moticka
William Winter

Absent

Ron Hodges
Amanda Sher, Secretary

City Council Liaison

Council Member Bob Sears - Absent

Chief Administrative Officer

Russ Hawes

Other

Kathie Valentine, City of Kirkwood Admin. 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 September 12, 2017 meeting as amended. All in favor, motion carried.

Chief Administrator Comments

Russ Hawes stated that he is looking forward to participating at the Abilities Symposium. Denis Hart thanked the city for designating \$500 to cover symposium expenses. Russ Hawes informed the Commission that \$2,000 has been budgeted for KHRC expenses in the next fiscal year.

Strategic Plan Reports

A.1 – Amanda Sher continues posting events on the KHRC Facebook page (Art Exhibit, Symposium, Greentree, etc.). The page has been receiving a lot of “likes”.

A.4 – Judy Moticka reported that Russ Hawes had given her copies of the Neighborhood Caretaker Alert forms that had been submitted and that for the most part things are being addressed. She intends to review the forms further and report back to the Commission.

B.1 - Denis Hart advised that it is the intention of the Regional HRC to start meeting again. Judy Moticka spoke regarding a two day event (October 11 – 12), Environmental Justice and Human Rights, being sponsored by Webster University and stated that she would e-mail a link regarding the event to the Commissioners. Morris Fletcher encouraged the Commission to invite Metropolitan Congregations United and We Can to a KHRC meeting. The Missouri Human Rights Conference is scheduled to be held on November 2, 2017 in Columbia, MO. Denis Hart advised that he had registered to attend.

B.3 – Denis Hart had contacted Michele Condon, R-7 Interim Superintendent of Schools, and had invited her to attend the November KRHC meeting to speak regarding the discipline and achievement gap. Commissioners were invited to meet himself and Michele prior to the KHRC meeting for dinner at Duffy’s.

C.1 – The Abilities Ad Hoc Committee continues to meet with the symposium being held on October 28.

D.1 – Josh Lewis advised that he intends to contact the cities of Webster Groves and Crestwood in order to help them establish a Human Rights Commission in their municipalities.

E.3 – A draft copy of the 3rd Quarter Report was distributed. After review Bob Boyd was asked to add that Kirkcare staff had attended a meeting and had spoken to them regarding their organization. Bob requested that Commissioner’s e-mail him any revisions or additions for the report. At this time William Winter commented that the KRHC booth at Greentree was a successful event for the Commission and also thanked Morris Fletcher for his work in organizing the booth.

Abilities Forum/Symposium Update

Bob Boyd reported that:

- 16 organizations had confirmed attendance.
- The Eliot Chapel custodian will set up and tear down at the event for a fee of \$25/hour.
- One screen is available, they need two more.
- He did not feel that the \$500 allotted for the event would cover all expenses.
- Judy Moticka offered to contact Jimmy John’s for sandwich pricing as well as purchasing chips at Costco.
- Plates and cup will be purchased at the Dollar Store.
- Morris Fletcher expressed frustration as he does not feel the city is providing sufficient funds for symposium expenses and stated that he did not feel the Commission was provided enough support by city staff. Russ Hawes restated that \$2,000 had been placed in next year’s budget to

support the KHRC and advised that other Boards and Commissions do not receive that type of funding. Denis Hart thanked city staff for their support.

- An event evaluation form is being prepared for symposium participants.

Art Exhibit

Morris Fletcher advised that a meeting would be held prior to the Art Exhibit to give the jurors some direction. The Mayor plans to attend the meeting as well as the awards ceremony. Morris Fletcher intends to purchase award ribbons. Judy Moticka reported that she had been in contact with the North Middle School art teacher who advised that the students were excited.

Kirkwood Human Rights Award

A letter signed by Russ Hawes had been sent to Harriet Patton informing her that she had been selected as the recipient of the KHRC award. It will be presented at the October 19 City Council meeting.

William Winter advised that the Pride in our Parks group would like to host a reception for Harriett Patton possibly at the Kirkwood Train Station. (Note: The reception site is now Kirkwood Station Brewery.)

Police Department 3rd Quarter Report

The 3rd Quarter Report from the Kirkwood Police Department for the period January 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017 and the 2017 Training Hour Total report for January 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017 were distributed and reviewed by the Commission. All officers are on track to satisfy all Missouri POST requirements before December 31, 2017.

Mediation Agreement/Ordinance

The Commission set a tentative date of November 11, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., to review the Mediation Agreement and KHRC ordinances with the location to be determined. (Note: The meeting date has been changed to November 25, from 10:00 a.m. to noon, at the Kirkwood Public Library.)

Greentree Festival Booth

It was the consensus of the Commission that the KHRC booth at the Greentree Festival was a success. They appreciated the planning Morris Fletcher did for their booth, where the booth was located, and with the banner and handouts. Morris Fletcher thanked Commissioners for participating and that he felt having three individuals in the booth at a time worked well. Some items noted were:

- Publicity helped promote their booth.
- The tent could be set up better.
- They may consider purchasing a tent.
- They would like to ride in the Greentree Parade next year.

Other

- Denis Hart spoke regarding the Meacham Park Celebration event held at the Repertory Theater of St. Louis. He is exploring having the production repeated.
- Judy Moticka stated that the bike give away at Meacham Park was phenomenal.
- There were questions regarding the MLK event such as will there be a table for the KHRC, will there be time for students to read their winning essays, will they be able to display the winning artwork.
- Denis Hart had placed a call to Mike Havener in order to discuss student concerns expressed in their essays, the student protest, and the Social Justice Club and regular meetings with his staff.
- Denis Hart intends to order KHRC logo shirts for the Commission Members.

Matters Pending

- Mediation Agreement and City HRC Ordinances Review
- Abilities Symposium 10-28-17
- 2017 Middle School Art Exhibit

Upcoming Meeting

The next meeting of the HRC will be held on Tuesday, November 14, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Amanda Sher, Secretary