**KIRKWOOD HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

**Minutes**

**January 8, 2019**

**6:30 p.m.**

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

**Present Absent**

Bob Boyd, Vice Chair Ronda Wallace

Denis Hart, Chair

Josh Lewis

Geoff Morrison

Judy Moticka

Amanda Sher, Secretary

William Winter

**Chief Administrative Officer** Russ Hawes

**Other**  Kathie Valentine, City of Kirkwood Admin. Department

**Visitors** Jeannie Webdell, Andrea Cannon (Moms Demand Action)

**Roll Call**

Roll call was taken by Amanda Sher with attendance reflected above.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion was made by Amanda Sher and seconded by Geoff Morrison to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2018 meeting as amended. All in favor, motion carried.

**City Council Liaison Comments**

Council Member Duwe reported that the City intends to participate in Vision Zero which is a road traffic safety project that aims to achieve no fatalities or serious injuries involving road traffic and that the Council may seek input from the KHRC.

**Chief Administrative Officer Comments**

Russ Hawes stated that Vision Zero ties in strongly in the City’s efforts for equitable treatment in all decisions.

**Visitor Introductions**

Denis Hart welcomed Jeannie Webdell to the meeting who mentioned that an admission

fee is being charged to attend the upcoming MLK event at Kirkwood High School. It

was noted that part of the fee covers expenses for the event and also funds

scholarships. Jeannie Webdell stated that she was not in favor of the admission fee.

Also welcomed was Andrea Cannon with Moms Demand Action who had been invited to speak before the KHRC.

**Moms Demand Action/St. Louis Chapter, Andrea Cannon**

Andrea Cannon spoke regarding the focus of Moms Demand Action. The organization:

* Pressures lawmakers to improve gun laws.
* Raises awareness about gun violence.
* Educates the public about common-sense gun laws and responsible gun ownership.
* Mobilizes grassroots supporters.
* They are non-partisan.
* There are Chapters in all 50 states.
* Data drive.
* Meetings are held at the Kirkwood Baptist Church on the first Thursday of the month.

**Strategic Plan Reports**

A.1 – Judy Moticka and Amanda Sher continue to maintain and enhance the Facebook page. They reported that they needed one more “like” to have received 400 on the KHRC Facebook page.

A.3 – The report on the Neighborhood Caretaker Alert forms was postponed to February.

A.4 – It is their goal to develop a list of community resources. Bob Boyd reported that he had a list of 8 LGBTQ resources. Denis Hart requested that Bob Boyd bring that information to the upcoming Strategic Plan meeting.

B.1 – Geoff Morrison reported that St. Louis Metropolitan Congregations United had not held any events. The Alliance for Interracial Dignity normally meets on the second Thursday of the month but in January the meeting had been cancelled to encourage attendance at the MLK event.

B.3 – Nothing to report.

B.6 – The Commission had hosted an event on November 2, 2018 with Representative Bruce Franks speaking.

E.5 – Bob Boyd distributed a draft copy of the 2018 Annual Report and requested that Commissioners contact him with any changes.

F.1 – It is the intention of the Commission to provide examples of the benefits of Universal Design.

G.2 – The KHRC 2019 Strategic Plan meeting had been scheduled for Saturday, January 12, 2019. (Note: Due to inclement weather the meeting was postponed to January 26, 2019.)

H.1 – Denis Hart, Amanda Sher and Geoff Morrison intend to meet quarterly with Chief Murphy. They had met on January 9th to review the VSR report prepared by the Empower Missouri Group. A copy of the Kirkwood Police Department report (10/1/18 – 12/31/18) to the KHRC was distributed.

I.1 – In order to stay engaged with the Kirkwood School District, Denis Hart and Judy Moticka plan to contact Michele Condon, Superintendent, to set up another meeting. In addition, they intend to set up a meeting with Dr. Havener and his staff.

Exhibit A – Participation in various organizations will be a topic of discussion at the Strategic Planning meeting.

**Essay Contest**

Judy Moticka explained that the Essay Contest Press Release had been distributed to Kirkwood High School English and Social Studies teachers. She offered to also send the information to Vianney and Ursuline. William Winter intends to follow up with Vianney and Denis Hart with Ursuline. Essays are due by February 22.

**2019 MLK Event**

Geoff Morrison stated that he had contacted Harriet Patton regarding the KHRC table at the MLK event. They have been asked to have their table set up by 11:00 a.m. It was suggested that the 2018 essay contest winner be contacted to see if they would like to read their essay at the event. Geoff Morrison intends to contact Harriet Patton to ensure that program time is available.

**KHRC Diverse-Abilities Window Sticker**

Denis Hart reported that the recognition window sticker, which will be awarded to businesses that hire and/or train individuals with a disability, had been approved and that a video was in the process of being made.

**Other**

* Denis Hart advised that May would be his last month on the Commission as his term is expiring.
* Elections should be held in June.
* The KHRC Calendar of Events Guideline was distributed.
* The KHRC intends to participate in the library’s One Book, One Kirkwood event.
* The Community for Understanding and Hope’s bus trip to visit the Civil Rights Museum and Burkle Slave Haven Museum is scheduled on June 7.
* Denis Hart distributed an e-mail he received from Laurie Creach (Faith & For the Sake) regarding a Housing Advocacy Fair being held on February 3, at 1:00 p.m., at the Eden Theological Seminary.
* William Winter stated that he wanted to rescind his motion made at the November 2018 KHRC meeting regarding the Art Exhibit.

Motion was made by William Winter to rescind his motion to withdraw the support of the KHRC for the Art Exhibit made at the November 2018 KHRC meeting. The motion was seconded by Bob Boyd. All in favor, motion carried.

**Upcoming Meetings**

KHRC Strategic Planning meeting, January 12, 2019. (As a result of inclement weather the meeting has been rescheduled to January 26, 2019 beginning at 12:30 p.m.)

The next regular meeting of the KHRC is scheduled to be held on February 12, 2019.

**Adjourn**

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

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Amanda Sher, Secretary