

KIRKWOOD HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

**Minutes
March 9, 2021
6:30 p.m.**

Under Section 610.015 of the Missouri Sunshine Law provides that members of the Human Rights Commission who are not physically present are able to participate and vote on all matters when an emergency exists and the nature of the emergency is stated in the minutes.

The U.S., and the World, is in a state of emergency due to the Coronavirus--Covid-19. The Missouri Governor and the County Executive directed all citizens to limit meetings and gatherings to a few people to avoid the spread of the Coronavirus. Therefore, members of the Human Rights Commission can elect to participate in virtual meetings so that they are compliant with such Orders and for the public health and safety of each other and the general public.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Amanda Sher.

Present

Carolyn Becker
Bob Boyd
Michelle Cole
Judy Moticka, Vice Chair
Geoff Morrison, Secretary
Margie Palazollo
Amanda Sher, Chair
Paul Ward
Jeannie Webdell

Absent

Council Liaison

Maggie Duwe

Staff Liaison

Russ Hawes

Other

Kim Sansegraw, City of Kirkwood

Roll Call

Roll call was taken by Geoff Morrison with attendance reflected above.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Geoff Morrison and seconded by Carolyn Becker to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2021 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

City Council Comments

Council Member Duwe reported that Council passed the Vision Zero legislation that has equity included.

Chief Administrative Officer Comments

Chief Administrative Officer Russ Hawes had nothing to report.

Chair Remarks

Amanda announced her term for re-appointment is up in June and she does not want to be re-appointed.

Top Essay Vote

Commissioners provided their top picks for the essay contest. The top picks were essays numbered 10, 26, 28, 46, and 62. Commissioners were asked to reread those essays and bring their top 4 selections to the April meeting.

Annual Report

Motion was made by Bob Boyd and seconded by Geoff Morrison to approve the 2020 Annual Report. All in favor, motion carried.

Amanda will email the Mayor to arrange a date to report on the Annual Report to the City Council.

Utility Inserts

After discussion, it was agreed to include the following on the Utility Insert:

- How to contact the KHRC
- Photograph of Roberta McWoods being presented the Denis Hart Award of Excellence with the KHRC Commissioners

Motion was made by Judy Moticka and seconded by Paul Ward to approve the Utility Insert for submission to the City, as amended. All in favor, motion carried.

Meeting Updates

Employment Initiative

Amanda reported she spoke to Peg Weathers again regarding the Employment Initiative. Peg offered to send out a Survey Monkey to the email mailing list the Chamber of Commerce has.

Russ suggested contacting Special Business District (SBD) Executive Director Donna Poe to obtain information for SPD businesses that might be hiring people with diverse abilities to distribute stickers to be displayed at those businesses.

A discussion was held and it was the consensus that Amanda will contact Donna Poe to obtain information regarding SBD businesses and Bob offered to contact Doug Riggs regarding the Employment Initiative stickers.

Other

Webinar Update

Carolyn Becker reported on the Human Rights Responding to Structural Discrimination and Police Violence webinar. Jeannie also included information that the United States is being

investigated by the United Nations for possible violations of the Human Rights Code that the United Nations had adopted. A preliminary report is scheduled to be released on March 18, 2021.

Geoff mentioned he received a flyer in the mail from Horizons St. Louis, which provides recreational and educational activities for children during the summer. Geoff proposed inviting Director Lakesha Robinson from Horizons St. Louis in Kirkwood to a future meeting to give a presentation about their program.

Paul Ward suggested KHRC should bring attention to the Achievement Gap with the Kirkwood School District.

Jeannie mentioned KHRC might want to work with the Kirkwood Social Justice Coalition which provides a forum for people to exchange ideas and what's going on in the community.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the KHRC is scheduled to be held on April 13, 2021 at 6:30 p.m., via Zoom.

Adjourn

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


Geoff Morrison, Secretary