**`KIRKWOOD HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

**Minutes**

**July 9, 2019**

**6:30 p.m.**

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

**Present Absent**

Bob Boyd, Vice Chair Ronda Wallace

Verneda Carrier

Josh Lewis

Geoff Morrison

Judy Moticka, Secretary

Amanda Sher, Chair

Paul Ward

William Winter

**Council Liaison** Maggie Duwe

**Staff Liaison** Russ Hawes

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

Emma DeLooze-Klein, Kirkwood Public Library

**Visitors** Jeannie Webdell

Janice and Michael Lewis

**Roll Call**

Roll call was taken by Judy Moticka with attendance reflected above.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion was made by William Winter and seconded by Geoff Morrison to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2019 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

**City Council Liaison Comments**

Council Member Duwe commented that Council Members would be attending the city’s Budget Planning Session scheduled to be held on July 11 and 12.

**Chief Administrative Officer Comments**

Russ Hawes and Amanda Sher had recently met with City of Clayton officials in order to provide information regarding Kirkwood’s Human Rights Commission and Ordinance. The Clayton group inquired about how success might be measured. Amanda Sher advised that the concept of a citizen survey had peaked her interest but that it wasn’t something that the Commission could do on their own. Bob Boyd expressed concerns regarding how a survey would be worded and measured. Input would be needed from the City Council as well. It was mentioned that if they were able to do a survey in 2020, they would then try to send additional surveys out every five years. The City of Clayton is interested in forming a Commission with adjudicated powers, unlike the Human Rights Commission in Kirkwood.

**Chair Remarks**

* In order to comply with the Sunshine Law, Amanda Sher requested that she and Kathie Valentine be copied in on all e-mails sent by Commissioners on projects. Preferably Bob Boyd and Judy Moticka, as officers, should also be copied in.
* If a Commissioner is holding a meeting and the KHRC is mentioned, there should be one other Commissioner in attendance at the meeting.

(Paul Ward entered the meeting.)

* If a Commissioner wishes to discuss an item at a meeting it is important that they advise the Chair early enough so that the item can be placed on the meeting agenda. Also, it is helpful if handouts can be mailed out with the agenda as well.
* Amanda Sher and Kathie Valentine should be advised if a Commissioner is not able to attend a meeting.

**Strategic Plan Reports**

A.1 – Judy Moticka plans to e-mail the link to the KHRC Facebook page to the Commissioners. She asked that they “like” and “follow” the page in order for posts to show up on their timeline. Commissioners are also able to “share” posts.

A.2 – Nothing to report.

A.3 – Judy Moticka asked if there would be a way to utilize the Caretaker Alert Forms online. Russ Hawes explained that the form was designed to not be an online form as some citizens were uncomfortable with providing their name. The Caretaker Alert Forms have a number on them which the submitter uses to look up the city’s response on the city’s website. It is completely anonymous. Judy Moticka advised that she had filed a concern on Kirkwood Connect and was pleased with the process. Russ Hawes stated that he was not aware of any Caretaker Alert Forms being submitted that would be a concern of the KHRC.

A.4 – It was reported that Emma DeLooze-Klein, Kirkwood Public Library, would be in attendance later on in the meeting to discuss their community resource guide.

B.6 – Nothing to report.

B.7 – Bob Boyd reported that the small gym at the Kirkwood Community Center had been reserved on Friday, September 27 for their annual event. Commissioners were asked to provide suggestions for speakers. The fall event should be added to the August meeting agenda.

E.2 – Bob Boyd distributed a copy of the draft 2nd quarter report and asked that the Commissioners review it and send their comments to him.

At this time Verneda Carrier asked about training for Commissioners. Amanda Sher intends to contact the City Clerk to discuss.

H.2 – Geoff Morrison reported that he, Amanda Sher and Ronda Wallace had met with Chief Murphy on June 26, 2019. A summary of the meeting was distributed.

Some items noted in the summary were:

* No complaints were received by the department for the April – June time period.
* Officers are required to wear tasers on their non-gun hand side to avoid mistaking one weapon or another.
* The 2018 Vehicle Stop Report was discussed in light of Empower Missouri’s comments. Chief Murphy advised that the number of vehicle stops increased dramatically due the creation of a traffic division and by increased enforcement on the interstate highway through Department of Safety grants.

A handout regarding training for the period January 1, 2019 – June 30, 2019 had been provided by Captain Folluo with copies distributed at the meeting. Officers had received 1,296.5 total hours of training during the time period. Categories for the training are: interpersonal, legal, skill, technical, skill firearms, and racial profiling.

I.1 – Judy Moticka, Ronda Wallace and Geoff Morrison had met with Dr. Condon on July 9, 2019. Ronda Wallace had provided notes from the meeting. Judy Moticka reported that Dr. Condon is very open to meeting with the KHRC. A meeting of the School Board is being held on July 15. Judy Moticka, Amanda Sher, Geoff Morrison and Paul Ward plan to attend the meeting.

Geoff Morrison reported that the school district will be hosting a seminar on “Culturally Sensitive Teaching” for staff at North Middle School on July 29 and July 30. KHRC members are welcome to attend. Commissioners were asked to inform him if they would like to attend and he will in turn advise Dr. Condon.

Judy Moticka stated that Dr. Condon intends to have her administrative staff take the Implicit Bias test.

**Emma DeLooze-Klein, Kirkwood Public Library**

Emma DeLooze-Klein had been invited to the meeting in order to provide information on the library’s Community Resource Guide. The guide is a resource for information about agencies and helplines. Patrons are allowed to use the library’s phone as well as e-mail access. She noted that Metro passes are available at the reference desk.

It is a priority of the library to establish partnerships and collaborate with the community. A Homeless Task Force (Kirkwood Public Library, Kirkwood Police Department (Gary Baldridge), Kirkcare and Kirkwood Every Child Promise) has been established. After discussion it was the consensus of the Commission to join the task force.

**Strategic Plan Reports (continued)**

Exhibit A

Kirkwood Social Justice Coalition – Bob Boyd advised that he had not recently attended meetings of the coalition. Verneda Carrier reminded Commissioners that the movie “Loving” is scheduled to be shown at Kirkwood United Methodist Church on Saturday, July 12 at 6:15 p.m.

Meacham Park Neighborhood Improvement Association – William Winter reported that a Pride in our Park rally is scheduled on August 10 in Meacham Park. He and Harriet Patton are Co-Chairs for the event.

Missouri Commission on Human Rights – Amanda Sher intends to contact them to see if any meetings are being scheduled.

St. Louis Metropolitan Congregations United – Geoff Morrison advised that a meeting is scheduled on July 22 at 7:00 p.m. at the New Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Charles, Missouri.

**KHRC White Paper Outline and Abstract**

Josh Lewis and Verneda Carrier presented the outline and abstract for Universal Design. Josh Lewis explained how it relates to Kirkwood resident’s desires for aging in place as well as diverse-ability needs. It was mentioned that the city’s Envision 2035 includes accessible home design. Paul Ward offered to help with their work. There was discussion that standards for commercial and residential buildings are different. Josh Lewis added that they are focusing on Universal Design for new home construction and remodels.

**Proposed Letter to the Webster-Kirkwood Times**

After the discussion at the June KHRC meeting regarding an incident at Kirkwood High School involving students, coaches and teachers, Judy Moticka had drafted a letter to the Webster-Kirkwood Times to let the community know their concerns. Russ Hawes had informed her that the letter had to be approved by the KHRC prior to sending it to the newspaper since the letter could be perceived to be representative of the Commission.

There was discussion on making the letter more inclusive of the Commission and also depersonalizing it. Judy Moticka intends to send a revised copy to Commissioners for their review with approval at the August meeting.

**Art Exhibit Prompts**

Judy Moticka had provided several prompts for the Art Exhibit. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission to choose “Diversity: Embrace It, Share It, Celebrate It”.

**Bail Bonds**

Geoff Morrison intends to invite the Kirkwood Police Department, the Court Clerk, or the city’s Prosecuting Attorney to the August meeting to explain how bail bonds are handled. The item should be placed on the August agenda.

Russ Hawes explained that it is a decision of the Supreme Court that the city has no authority over the court and that he cannot speak about it.

**Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the KHRC is scheduled to be held on August 14, 2019 at 6:30 p.m., Kirkwood City Hall, Main Level Conference Room.

**Adjourn**

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

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Judy Moticka, Secretary