



**Human Rights Commission  
Agenda  
Tuesday, December 10, 2019, 6:30 p.m.  
Kirkwood City Hall  
Main Level Conference Room  
139 S. Kirkwood Road  
Kirkwood, MO 63122**

- I. Call to Order – Amanda Sher, Chair
- II. Roll Call – Judy Moticka, Secretary
- III. Approval of Minutes (November 12, 2019)
- IV. Visitor Introductions and Comments
- V. Vote on Essay Contest Topics
- VI. City Attorney John Hessel – Sunshine Law
- VII. New Business
- VIII. Next Meeting
- IX. Adjourn

**Staff Liaison:** Russ Hawes Phone: 314-822-5803 Email:

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**Chair:** Amanda Sher

**Accommodation:** The City of Kirkwood is interested in effective communication for all persons. Persons requiring an accommodation to attend and participate in the meeting should contact the City Clerk at 314-822-5802 at least 48 hours before the meeting. With advance notice of seven calendar days, the City of Kirkwood will provide interpreter services at public meetings for languages other than English and for the hearing impaired. Upon request, the minutes from this meeting can be made available in an alternate format, such as a CD, by calling 314-822-5802.

**KIRKWOOD HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**  
**Minutes**  
**November 12, 2019**  
**6:30 p.m.**

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

**Present**

Verneda Carrier  
Judy Moticka, Secretary  
Geoff Morrison  
Amanda Sher, Chair  
Ronda Wallace  
Paul Ward  
William Winter

**Absent**

Bob Boyd, Vice Chair  
Josh Lewis

**Council Liaison**

Maggie Duwe

**Staff Liaison**

Russ Hawes

**Other**

Kathie Valentine, City of Kirkwood

**Roll Call**

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

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion was made by Paul Ward and seconded by William Winter to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2019 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

**City Council Liaison Comments**

Report given later in the meeting.

**Chief Administration Officer Comments**

None.

## **Chair Remarks**

- Commissioners were asked to e-mail Amanda Sher, and also Judy Moticka, the items listed on the Table of Contents in their KHRC binder. It is the intention going forward to ensure binders are uniform.
- The KHRC roster was circulated at the meeting with Commissioners being asked to review their contact information.
- KHRC terms should be added to the January meeting agenda.
- Commissioners should refrain from holding discussions via e-mail until after the December meeting at which time City Attorney John Hessel will attend and provide training on the Sunshine Law.

## **Gary Baldrige, Kirkwood Police Department**

Gary Baldrige entered the meeting and spoke regarding the No Shave November program at the Kirkwood Police Department. Officers making a \$30 donation towards Shop with a Cop are allowed to participate. A local business owner is matching donations made by the officers. The department, along with Youth in Action (Keith Rawlings), will be holding the Shop with a Cop event at Wal-Mart again this year and it is hoped it will be an annual tradition. Every child who is selected to participate will receive the same dollar amount to spend at the store.

## **Strategic Plan Reports**

B.1 – Members of the Kirkwood High School Coalition and the Kirkwood Gay Straight Alliance had attended the October meeting upon the invitation of Geoff Morrison. William Winter provided information on the ongoing MNIA membership drive which runs through the end of the year.

Council Member Duwe entered the meeting.

B.4 – Thirteen entries were submitted this year for the Art Exhibit. Commissioners had previously approved that \$50 from their budget be used to purchase gift cards from Michael's which were then given to students that participated. Kirkwood Public Library staff provided gift cards as well. Judy Moticka intends to e-mail essay topics from the few years to Commissioners. Commissioners were asked to e-mail their proposed essay topics to Judy Moticka. A list of the proposed topics will then be included in the December meeting packet. The press release regarding the essay contest normally is circulated in January.

## **Meeting Updates**

Judy Moticka informed the Commission that she, Geoff Morrison and Ronda Wallace had set up a meeting with Dr. Condon of the Kirkwood School District later that week. There was nothing to report regarding a Task Force on Equity meeting (discussion had been tabled at the previous meeting).

## **Maggie Duwe, Complete Streets**

Council Member Maggie Duwe offered, if desired by the Commission, to provide information on Complete Streets at an upcoming meeting. There was discussion regarding an e-mail received by Commissioners regarding Complete Streets and Vision Zero. Russ Hawes spoke regarding ongoing sidewalk improvements, grants received, etc. Paul Ward noted that the signage for sidewalk activity needs improvement. After discussion, it was suggested that the Complete Streets topic be added to the January agenda with Council Member Duwe speaking on the subject.

## **Presentation, David Bennett**

David Bennett had been invited to the meeting to give Commissioners an introduction to the book "Community" by Peter Block. He provided background information on the Mediation Agreement and the reformation of the KHRC. During the discussion he suggested that Commissioners:

- Examine how the KHRC can become more productive.
- Look at how they are representing community needs.
- Ask questions that have not been previously considered.
- Think about "what does here look like" and "what does there look like".
- Determine how to get from "here" to "there".

During the meeting Commissioners were asked to speak on gifts they bring to the table and why they wanted to be part of the Commission.

Ronda Wallace – Devastated by lack of change in the community and an offensive interaction between herself and a police officer.

William Winter – Has empathy for others and is not shy about talking about things.

Geoff Morrison – Working as a juvenile officer for most of his career he feels he knows Kirkwood citizens well, noting that people are dealt different things to deal with in their lives. He also has a range of experiences that most people do not have.

Verneda Carrier – As a facilitator for Kirkwood for Understanding and Healing in the aftermath of the city hall shootings, she heard stories about differences. She also has the gift of time and wanted to know if anything has changed.

Paul Ward – Noted that he has witnessed pain in various ways and that service comes first in his family.

Judy Moticka – As an extension of being a teacher, she initially joined as it seemed the correct thing to do, but realized it is a lot more than that. She does not back down or give up.

Amanda Sher – Caring about others makes up the fabric of her soul. She has empathy and is persistent.

The offsite meeting for the “Community” by Peter Block book discussion was tentatively scheduled on February 8 from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

### **Robert Rules of Order**

A synopsis of Roberts Rules of Order had been included in the meeting packet. There was discussion on “Putting the Question to Members” (Chair asking if they were ready to vote on a question and if there was no more discussion a motion should be made.) An example was given with Chair Amanda Sher asking if Commissioners were in agreement to work on the Strategic Plan, after the book discussion in February, with the intent to simplify the plan. All in favor, motion carried.

### **Other**

- Judy Moticka spoke regarding a Poverty Simulation Exercise she has recently attended at the Kirkwood School District.
- Geoff Morrison and Amanda Sher had met with Chief Murphy with discussion being held on vagrants. It was suggested that instead of giving money to a vagrant that it be given to a not-for-profit instead who could then use the money to provide services.
- Paul Ward spoke regarding a house that had been condemned and the need to find a way to assist people transition to new housing.

### **Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the KHRC is scheduled to be held on December 10, 2019 at 6:30 p.m., Kirkwood City Hall, Main Level Conference Room. Training on the Sunshine Law will be provided by City Attorney John Hessel. Commissioners were asked to read the KHRC ordinance prior to the December meeting.

### **Adjourn**

Motion was made by Geoff Morrison and seconded by Paul Ward to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.

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Judy Moticka, Secretary