

KIRKWOOD HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
Minutes
September 14th, 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 can 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. Therefore, members of the Human Rights Commission can elect to participate in this meeting electronically 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 Geoff Morrison, Chair.

Present

Carolyn Becker
Bob Boyd
Michelle Cole
Judy Moticka, Vice Chair
Geoff Morrison, Chair
Margie Palazzolo, Secretary
Paul Ward
Jeannie Webdell
Nicole Goldkamp

Absent

Council Liaison

Maggie Duwe

Staff Liaison

Russ Hawes

Other

Mary Claire Sorensen, Administration

Roll Call

Roll call was taken by Margie Palazzolo with attendance reflected above.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Carolyn Becker and seconded by Judy Moticka to approve the minutes of the August 10th, 2021 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

City Council Comments

Council Member Duwe reported the Youth Advisory Board met and 5 new members have joined. There are a total of 11 members. One Youth Advisory Board member will be joining the Human Rights Commission and will be contacting Geoff soon. Maggie serves as the Council liaison for the Commission. Freddie Doss, Public Information Officer, is the staff liaison.

Chief Administrative Officer Comments

Chief Administrative Officer Russ Hawes reported the road markings on Geyer Road are complete. There is also a raised intersection on North Geyer near Keysor Elementary School that will aid in slowing traffic in the school zone. This work is part of the Vision Zero efforts to make the streets safer for all. There will be an education campaign regarding Vision Zero to educate everyone on what it means and how it makes the streets safer.

Visitor Welcome

No visitors

Old Business

Employment Initiative Update: Bob reported that he and Geoff went to Pioneer Bakery, Sammy Soaps and Schnucks to present the window stickers to these businesses. Bob voiced concern that the businesses had not yet posted the stickers in their windows. Geoff mentioned that simply following up with the businesses about posting the sticker might be worthwhile. Geoff also met with Manor Grove, Bethesda Gardens, Global Foods, and Bread Co and all were receptive to the program. Geoff mentioned several more ways to get publicity around this initiative so that more people are aware of it. Donna Poe has done a good job in advertising this to the Special Business District. Information on this initiative will also be available at Greentree.

11/10/21 Speaker at KPAC: Geoff is preparing a press release about this Speaker event to give to Freddie Doss by 10/8 to advertise in the Eye on Kirkwood. A flyer was created and will be distributed at Greentree. Geoff also suggested sending information to the school district and teachers.

Art Exhibit: This event is for Kirkwood residents in grades 6-10. Judy sent an email to all Art Teachers in the district. The Library has done a good job publicizing the event. There will be flyers at Greentree along with registration forms. Judy stated the Art Opening reception is scheduled for Nov. 7th. Judy will send Maggie a flyer to give to the Youth Advisory Board.

Denis Hart Award: Geoff reported he sent this information to the Media person at the School district and the school will publicize it. Flyers will be distributed at Greentree.

Green Tree Booth: Geoff reviewed the schedule with the members and offered a parking pass to anyone who needs it. Geoff will pick up the candy from Judy on Friday and drop off the parking pass to Michelle on Friday. The press release should be out this week per Freddie Doss.

Police Open House on Saturday, 10/2/21: Geoff will be out of town this day and will not be able to attend. Judy, Paul, Carolyn and Nicole have offered to attend. Geoff will get the materials to Judy that will be available for distribution. The event starts at 10am. Gary Baldrige will have a table for HRC. Geoff suggested to those attending, if the weather is bad to call the Police department, 822-5858, to make sure it will still be going on.

New Business

Quarterly Meeting with Chief Murphy: Geoff reported that he has reached out to Chief Murphy to schedule the Quarterly meeting. Geoff will email the Chief to check his availability on

Friday, 10/8. Paul and Jeanne would like to attend this meeting as well. The meeting is to review taser deployments, department demographics, complaints and training.

Agenda for next Meeting: Geoff asked if anyone was interested in having a guest speaker at the next meeting. The Coalition Club and the Gay Straight Alliance have come to meetings in the past. Judy mentioned Shonda Amber Phillips of the Kirkwood School District might be a good person to come and talk about her position as Diversity and Inclusion Officer, address the strategic plan regarding diversity and equity, address how the district is implementing their policies, and discuss the sexual harassment issues the school district is facing.

Paul Ward notified the Commission that he has picked up a packet to run for City Council.

Jeanne Webdell went to the Meacham Park back pack giveaway and she thought it was a positive experience. Not very much traffic at the HRC table, but it was good to be there. Jeanne had heard only about 5 people received the vaccination as well.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting of the KHRC is scheduled to be held on October 12, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Adjourn

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

Margie Palazzolo, Secretary