

Minutes of Meeting
Human Relations Meeting
May 21, 2015

A meeting of the Human Relations Commission was called to order at 6:35 p.m. at Heman Park Community Center, University City, MO 63130

Members in Attendance: Kathy McGinnis, Angelene Hayes, Charmaine Glenn, Jonathan Falk, Meg McClelland, Jackie Womack

Members Excused:

Members absent: Robyn Williams

Agenda

The May 21, 2015 agenda was approved.

Minutes

The April 16, 2015 minutes were approved, as amended.

Unfinished Business

1. Brochure – The corrected Brochure which will reflect the correct logo will be placed in conspicuous areas within City Hall, and the University City Library.

2. Website Update- The verbiage on the website does not match what is on the brochure.

3. Revisiting Bylaws, Ordinances

The By Laws, Rules, Roberts Rules, are to be forwarded to all board members and will be discussed at the next scheduled meeting.

DISCUSSION

It is not clear if the mission on the brochure is in line with what the Human Relations Commission By Laws state.

Dr. Alisa Warren, MO Commission on Human Rights – It was discussed that this person could help design a template for the Human Relations Board members. Cost may or may not be a factor. Commission Member Glenn will follow up.

4. Budget-before a budget can be discussed, the members need to decide what will be requested for such a fund.

5. Getting down to Business - The commission members had previously discussed spotlighting a community business; however, the Chamber of Commerce already does this. Discussion included connecting with the Chamber of Commerce in this effort.

6. Pole Banner -The members are unsure if the banner proposal needs council approval or if they should speak with Arts & Letters. Placement of the banners will be discussed later. A request will be put in to see if there is a Council Liaison for the Human Relations Board who can answer basic questions.

DISCUSSION

The Chair will provide a listing of concerns and or questions that perhaps can be asked of the Council Liaison.

7. Replacement of Robyn Williams-a letter was sent to the member. Awaiting response.

New Business

1. Zachary Schmook and Glenn Burleigh from Metropolitan St. Louis Equal Housing & Opportunity Council provided the Commission with their goals and how their agency can assist residents by being well informed.

DISCUSSION

A motion was made to ask the Council Liaison if a “Source of Income” section could be added to the category that is currently on file for housing for the City of University City.

The motion passed.

DISCUSSION

Human Relations Board members would like to suggest to Council that they pass a “Source of Income” ordinance for University City residents. It was discussed that the board members contact the Community Development department to see what is currently on file, regarding this item of concern. The motion was pulled.

2. Section 8 discussion.

3. Robyn Williams replacement can be requested, after the time line has passed for her to respond to the letter.

4. Asian American Chamber of Commerce Meeting.
No board members are able to attend this meeting.

5. Strategic Plan
It was discussed that some Board members do not understand this.

6. Real Talk, Race Relations endorsement
Commissioner Womack did not agree that the Commission should endorse any other agencies, but instead, to try and endorse their own mission.

7. Crime & Prevention Survey

DISCUSSION

The members spoke about creating a form for the Human Relations Commission's website that could be available from a link on the Commission's web page for residents seeking more information on how to file a complaint as it relates to Fair Housing. The Commission members agreed that a form could be created and placed on the City's website for complaints, however, it must tie into the mission, which is being revisited.

Link for Assistance - The Human Relations Commission's webpage should have a link that residents can note clearly that they are on the web page.

Public/Citizen Participation

None

Council Liaison Report

None

Meeting adjourned at 8.00 p.m.