

**Minutes of Meeting
Human Relations
Commission
May 16, 2013**

A meeting of the Human Relations Commission was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 5th Floor of City Hall, 6801 Delmar Blvd., University City, MO 63130

Members in Attendance: Kathy McGinnis, Jackie Womack
Meg McClelland, Matthew, David
Olander, Angelene Haynes

Members Excused: Matthew Nosko, Charmaine Glenn

Others in Attendance: Elaine Williams – Staff Liaison
Paulette Carr – City Council Member

Agenda

Agenda was approved.

Minutes

A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the minutes from the May 16, 2013 as written.

Council Liaison Report

Council is still focusing on budget. Mr. Walker stated \$500.00 would not be a problem for the Human Relations Commission to use for paying moderators for sessions. Main focus is for the Council to pay for matters such as repairing streets, paying the pension, and to ensure that employees are being paid. Talk is in the works to decide if the Annex should be renovated for Police Department, or should a new one be built instead. New fire station is estimated to be finished on October 2013. Construction is being managed by a Black owned Construction Company named Kwame. Question arose if the City of University City has a minority contractors' policy in place. The decision was to ask Mr. Walker about that.

School Board and Orthodox Jewish Community Conversation

The consensus was that summer would a good time to target for the conversation. Meg will get the names from the Board meeting transcript to Dave Olander, who will try to talk to members who are listed on the transcript. If there is an interest, the Board will decide when to schedule the conversation. If neither party wants to be involved, we will not move forward. We want to facilitate a conversation with a moderator present that will allow everyone's voice to be heard in efforts to try and improve relationships. Set a date, perhaps at next meeting if there is an interest.

Celebration of Diversity-Conversation on Race

The pamphlet the Commission members received covers classes that are set up as a facilitator assisted dialogue. It has good processes, and good activities. The Commission will try to have a Conversation on Race in the fall, the spring and possibly the summer. We decided to ask Billie Mayo about facilitating the conversations. Meg will contact Billie.

Old Business

Mission Statement

Matt did some preliminary work on the mission statement. Dave has agreed to finalize a draft of the Mission Statement.

Fair in U City

We can have space at the City's table. We intend to put together a brochure, and a simple questionnaire that could be filled out right at the table. We'll continue discussion on this at the next meeting.

Report on Regional Human Rights Commission Meeting

St. Charles and Kirkwood members were in attendance. The State Commissioner was there as well. Wanted the Human Relations Commissions to do something together, i.e. Martin Luther King Day essays. Speeches, Art Contest, (go to one place for one or the other). Hate Crime Force, Mix It Up day. They also talked about working together on a Church Mix-Up Day; and asked if any members would like to attend the Hate Crimes Task Force meeting.

New Business

Schnucks

Dave Olander reported shopping in the U. City Schnuck's and finding some asparagus that was not being kept properly. He reported this to the assistant manager and asked her to get back to him. He posed the question to her about whether the store was not up to the same level as other Schnuck's stores because it was serving a predominately African American community. Dave said he would follow up on this if he didn't hear back from the assistant manager. The Commissions authorized him to do this.

Mediation Meeting

Kathy suggested that we invite Rich Williams, owner of Plow sharing Crafts, to come to our June meeting to talk about implementing a process of mediation in U. City similar to what has been done in the City of St. Louis. This would involve working with the police. It was decided to invite Rich and Capt. Jackson from the Police Department to the June meeting to talk about this.

Next Meeting Date

June 20, 2013

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:00.