

**Minutes of Meeting**  
Human Relations Meeting  
August 15, 2013

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

Members in Attendance: Kathy McGinnis, Angelene Hayes, Meg McClelland  
Charmaine Glenn

Members Excused: Matthew Nosko, David Olander

Members Absent: Jackie Womack,

Other in Attendance: Elaine Williams-Board Secretary  
Paulette Carr- Council Liaison

**Agenda**

The agenda was approved as amended. We added under New Business: Communication about racial profiling, The Human Relations Rules of Conduct and Transaction of Business, and Ordinance 6833, Bill Number 9091.

**Minutes**

The July 18, 2013 meeting minutes were accepted.

The August 6, 2013 meeting minutes were approved as amended.

**Unfinished Business**

**Conversation with the Orthodox Jewish Community and the School District**

If there is another school board meeting that has particular unrest, then this issue can be readdressed. It has been several months now and tensions seem to have calmed down. The Board does not think there's a will to have the discussion.

**A motion was made and it was decided that this is to be tabled for now. It will be revisited in the future, if it is determined that it needs to be readdressed.**

**The motion passed.**

**Conversation on race-discussion**

The Human Relations Commission cannot move forward on this with only a single bid to do the work. RFPs would have to be sent out as with any other contract. The City Council would have to approve doing this. The City Manager would first post RFQ's. Then the City Council would send RFPs to the organizations whom we feel are qualified to do the work. The Commission would specify what they want-- parameters, etc. When bids come in, the Staff person and Commission members will consult with the Staff person to make recommendations. It would then be on our agenda. Then would go as a recommendation to the City Council.

### **Discussion**

We discussed the possibility of having a facilitated discussion about race among ourselves before setting up community conversations. Ms. Carr suggested it can be treated as a retreat.

**Moved to postpone the community conversation proposal to the City Council until a date yet TBD after initial internal retreat process. Passed.**

**A motion to have a commission retreat on a date yet TBD that would include a process around addressing issues on racism, diversity and other topics that we address at this Commission.**

**The motion passed**

### **Letter to Schnucks**

City Council moved to postpone the letter. It was felt that the Commission should not go any further with this, and that it should be left with the elected officials to move forward on this.

### **Discussion**

Ms. McGinnis is uneasy because Schnucks has made some improvements at the store, and it seems there is not a way for the Human Relations Commission to acknowledge those improvements.

Individual members can write their own letters to the Schnucks store without mentioning any Human Relations Commission Connection.

### **Citizen Comments**

None

### **Invitation**

The Council approved for the Human Relations Board to enter into an agreement with partnership with the Missouri Commission on Human Rights (MCHR) on fair housing. If MCHR gets the grant, \$1000.00 will be awarded to U City to do work on fair housing.

The Board will send a letter accepting the invitation to the MCHR.

### **Mediation Center and Police Department**

If the Board would like to proceed, they must go to City Council. Ms. McGinnis will ask John Daggert to submit a proposal, and then the Commission will look at it and send it to the City Council.

### **New Business**

#### **Mission Statement**

It was agreed that the Mission Statement could be laid out on a flyer that could perhaps be made available for Fair U-City that is on September 6-8, 2013. There would be a limited number that could be on that table. It would not be a huge cost. Ms. McGinnis will send an email to Mr. Nosko for the design of the brochure that will have a tear off sheet they can rip off that contains information on whom to contact if they want to learn more.

#### **Nelson Mandela Tribute**

Can the Commission decide if a quote can be placed on the Commission's website.

### **Discussion**

A motion to place a quote on the Commissions web page was made.

The motion passed.

### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of March on Washington**

A motion to place a quote on the Commissions web page was made.

**The motion passed.**

### **New Students in U. City Schools**

**A motion to place a quote on the Commissions web page was made.**

### **Other Matters**

#### **Racial Profiling**

A letter was forwarded to the Board that was a complaint about alleged racial profiling by the police.

### **Discussion**

After discussion, it was decided to send the complaint on to Mr. Walker. The Board agreed to let the complainant know that it was discussed, and that it will be sent to the City Manager, Mr. Walker, who will address it. He will advise us with how to proceed.

**A motion to communicate with Ms. Mills to inform her that the Board will send the complaint to Mr. Walker, the City Manager.**

**The motion passed three to one.**

### **Other Matters**

Discussion on Human Relations Commission and possible changes to Ordinance 6833 was discussed, as well as the list of Rules from the City Attorney.

### **Council Liaison Report**

More work on the Trolley. Trolley will stop at the Library. Separate funding, but construction is tied to construction of Trolley.

Report was given on next phases of work being done on homes in the flood plain. The Council is hoping to get some funding through Congressman Clay.

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 P.M.

The next meeting is September 19, 2013.