

**Minutes of Meeting**  
Human Relations Commission  
June 20, 2013

A meeting of the Human Relations Board was called to order at 6:31 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, Jackie Womack, Charmaine Glenn, Angelene Hayes  
David Olander

Members Excused: Meg McClelland, Matthew Nosko

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

**Agenda**

Agenda was approved.

**Minutes**

A change was made on the minutes as follows: The part about Schnucks that's on the agenda, should be on the minutes because that's what came up at the last minute. Dave Olander reported this at the last meeting. Dave moved to approve the minutes as amended.

**Conversation on Race-Meeting with Billie Mayo**

Member McClelland did get in touch with Billie Mayo, who is a possible leader for those conversations. She is very interested and is a University City resident. At this point we will meet with her for lunch next Friday, Chairperson McGinnis, Member McClelland, and Member Haynes, as well as anyone else is invited to meet on the 28<sup>th</sup>, at the Bread Company to meet with her. Jackie Womack expressed an interest in coming to the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss our goals and how the conversation/s will be set up. Ms. Mayo has expressed interest in facilitating the meeting but she needs to know what our goals are.

**School Board and Orthodox Jewish Community Conversation**

Citizen comments were downloaded from the School Board meeting. The minutes listed 11 people with their address. Most of them shared concerns about having McNair declared surplus. Dave has agreed to contact the people on that list who either are members of the Orthodox community or that may be members of that community. As he converses with them, based upon what he hears, the board can move forward if they would like to continue this meeting. The Board agreed to pursue this in this way.

**Mission Statement**

We agreed on the wording for the mission statement and goals--a few changes from what was presented. Dave agreed to work on layout for the mission statement.

**Mediation Meeting**

Conversation about the possibility of setting up a program in U-city that would have to do with the police department. The Mediation Center that is trying to offer mediation in the community—a way of implementing the concept of restorative justice. The mediation services allow both parties to hear each other. Rich Willams, from Plowsharing Crafts, and John Doggette from the Mediation Center came to talk to the Commission about this idea. One aspect of this work is to offer mediation in collaboration

with the Police Department. The Police could refer conflicts between citizens that could be handled through mediation. Also, mediation could be available for some disputes between citizens and police. The Mediation Center is currently working on implementing this with the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department.

Council Member Carr informed them that may want to attend the University City Police Focus Group occurs, at the Heman Community Center 4th Tuesday, every month, to familiarize them, with the interactions not only with the Police, but also Community Development to watch how the police interact with the citizens.

We can have facilitated conversations where both parties can see each other as human beings, and perhaps they can each ask, them self what they could have done better, just by knowing a little bit more about the other person. Mediation with community development can perhaps utilize these services. It is consistent with our positive sense about the concept of a Juvenile Conference Committee as well. We decided to move forward with this and that Dave would call Capt. Jackson about this.

### **Schnucks Meeting**

A report on the meeting with Schnucks representatives was given. Members Olander and McGinnis were present, as well as staff liaison Williams. Ellen Bern from the U. City Chamber of Commerce was also there. Suggested they visit other stores and compare it to the one in University City. Various aspects of the layout of the store were discussed, as well as other parts of the shopping experience. There was a lot of candor and openness at the meeting. Another meeting is being planned. Member Womack suggested that the meeting should have been open to all members of the commission. No specific decision was made about who would attend the next meeting.

### **Council Liaison Report**

Council Member Carr reported on the flooding in U. City from the rains/storm on June 17<sup>th</sup>. She has been working with a number of homeowners. They are working with MSD on this issue. The suggestion was made that if she or the Council felt it would be helpful for the Commission to write a letter to MSD, please let us know.

### **Next meeting date**

July 18

### **Adjourned**

The meeting adjourned at 8.00 P.M.