

Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations

March 21, 2018

The Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations met in regular session March 21, 2018 in the Bush Building 2nd Floor West Conference Room. The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Todd Thomas.

Present	Present: Todd Thomas, Chair, Heather Hardinger, Vice-Chair, Pamela Hernandez, Brittany O'Brien, Carlye Wannemacher, Bob Roberts, Francie Wolff, and Steve Largent.
Guests:	Brian Handshy, Renovate America; Jeff Barber, Missouri State University; Tim Applebaum, Ygrene; Keith Mackie, Senate District 30; Tim Havens, Citizen; Mike Morrison, Citizen; Kevin Kuritz, Citizen; Hank Hunsull, Citizen; Chris Choates, Citizen; Kyle Kleitz, Citizen;
Absent	None
Staff	Bob Atchley, Planning and Development; Nick Woodman, Law; and Kris Wright, City Clerk's Office.
Approval of Minutes	The minutes of the February 21, 2018 MCHCR Meeting were approved as corrected.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kyle Kleitz, Chris Choates, Mike Morrison, and Hank Hunsull representing the Missouri-Kansas Coalition for Workers' Justice, appeared before the committee. They expressed their concern for unsafe working conditions, poor wages, and a lack of safety equipment and training at DelCo Construction, a local Springfield company.

Todd Thomas noted this committee's scope of responsibility includes addressing discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, disability, and age. He stated labor relations is outside of the scope of this committee's authority.

Keith Mackie, representing Senator Bob Dixon, appeared before the Committee. He discussed Senate Bill 1022, which addresses unlawful discrimination practices.

Tim Havens appeared before the committee and read a statement in its entirety, which is attached as Exhibit A.

Heather Hardinger noted several issues, discussed by Mr. Havens, are outside of the scope of responsibility for the MCHCR. She expressed her opinion many of Mr. Havens concerns are being addressed.

There being no further appearances, the public hearing was closed at 6:07 p.m.

The following was discussed under Unfinished Business

Communication Plan

The commission members discussed the Community Listening Session, scheduled for July 18, 2018 at 5:30 p.m., which will replace the regularly scheduled commission meeting. Brentwood Library was selected for the location and Heather Hardinger will make the reservation.

Pamela Hernandez noted she continues to follow-up on MCHCR's ability to have meetings streamed live via Facebook.

The commission members discussed several upcoming events as follows:

April 4, 2018, 5:45pm – 9:00 pm: NAACP Golden Gathering at the Springfield Museum, commemorating the 50-year anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

April 4, 2018, 7:00 p.m. Holocaust Memorial Service at Plaster Student Union Ballroom at MSU.

April 5, 2018, 12:00 p.m.: Fair Housing Month kick-off at the Community Partnership of the Ozarks, in collaboration with OneDoor.

April 11, 2018, 7:00 p.m. Holocaust Memorial Service, at the National Avenue Christian Church.

April 16, 2018, 5:30 p.m. Springfield Board of Realtors, 50th Anniversary of Fair Housing Celebration, at the Historic Fox Theater and History Museum.

Pamela Hernandez noted these events will be posted on the MCHCR Facebook Page.

Heather Hardinger expressed her opinion one of the MCHCRs functions is the promotion of diversity and inclusion through community outreach to raise awareness on unconscious bias and cultural competencies. She stated providing these opportunities will help the community gain a better understanding of unconscious bias and cultural competencies.

Pamela Hernandez expressed her opinion the training from the Missouri Commission on Human Rights, scheduled for May 22, 2018, may provide training to help the MCHCR understand the best approach to raising awareness of unconscious bias and cultural competencies.

Missouri Commission On Human Rights Training

The commission members discussed the training session, to be presented by the Missouri Mayor's Commission training session, scheduled for May 22, 2018. Several locations were discussed, and a confirmed location will be announced at the April 18, 2018 meeting.

Outreach Brochure

A final draft of the Outreach Brochure was presented to the commission. Heather Hardinger recommended printing 1,000 copies, to ensure ample supplies for distribution at upcoming events.

MCHCR Bylaws Amendments

The proposed amendments to the MCHCR bylaws were presented to the commissioners. Nick Woodman, Assistant City Attorney, noted deleted language has been stricken and new language has been underlined. Mr. Woodman noted these amendments include the elimination of the Treasurer position and the addition of a Communications Officer. He stated several areas of responsibility, previously assigned to the Chairman of the Commission, have been reassigned to

the new Communications Officer position.

Brittany O'Brien moved to adopt the MCHCR Bylaws, as amended. Heather Hardinger seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Hardinger, Hernandez, O'Brien, Wannemacher, Roberts, Wolff, Largent, and Thomas. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

Communications Officer Heather Hardinger moved to nominate Pamela Hernandez to be the Communications Officer for the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations. Carlye Wannemacher seconded the nomination and it was approved by the following vote: Hardinger, Hernandez, O'Brien, Wannemacher, Roberts, Wolff, Largent, and Thomas. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

Coffee with the Commission Todd Thomas noted the Coffee with the Commission event is scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at Big Momma's Coffee & Espresso Bar. Carlye Wannemacher, Pamela Hernandez, Brittany O'Brien, and Todd Thomas will attend the event. Pamela Hernandez will confirm no events or meetings are scheduled at the location during this time.

Meeting with the Mayor Todd Thomas noted a meeting with Mayor McClure is tentative for May 2018. Heather Hardinger noted having a small contingency of one to two people meeting with Mayor McClure was discussed at the previous meeting.

Kris Wright, Clerk's Office, noted any requests to meet with Mayor McClure must be submitted via email to Anita Cotter, City Clerk.

The commission discussed several possible meeting topics including the Mayor's vision for the MCHCR, upcoming events and ongoing community outreach activities.

The following was discussed under New Business

P.A.C.E. Program Jeff Barber, Tom Applebaum, and Alex Eaton addressed the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations. They provided a brief overview of the Property Assessed Clean Energy Loan program for residential and commercial renewable energy and efficiency improvements.

The commissioners discussed the PACE program and the consensus of the MCHCR commission members was this program is outside of their scope of responsibility.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Prepared by Kris Wright

Todd Thomas, Chair

The minutes of the March 21, 2018 meeting of the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations was approved at the April 18, 2018 meeting of the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations.