

Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations

December 19, 2018

The Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations met in regular session December 19, 2018 in the Busch Building 2nd Floor West Conference Room. The meeting was called to order by Chair Todd Thomas.

Present	Todd Thomas, Chair; Heather Hardinger, Vice Chair; Pamela Hernandez, Communications Officer; Bob Roberts; Carlye Wannenmacher, Secretary; Francie Wolff and Mike Jungers
Absent	
Staff	Bob Atchley, Planning and Development; Nick Woodman, Law; Dawne Gardner, Public Works and Lisa Gateley, Planning and Development.
Guests	Dee Ogilvy, Daniel Ogunyemi and Cynthia McNeil
Approval of Minutes	Mike Jungers moved to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2018 MCHRCR Meeting. Pamela Hernandez seconded the motion, and it was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Todd Thomas, Pamela Hernandez, Mike Jungers, Carlye Wannenmacher, Heather Hardinger, Francie Wolff and Bob Roberts. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.
Public Comments	Daniel Ogunyemi introduced himself and has been recommended to become a new commission member with a term to expire October 1, 2021. The other two citizens present were in attendance to hear and speak about the Equal Rights Amendment Resolution.
Unfinished Business	Discussion of ADA Training Dawne Gardner discussed a time and date to provide the MCHRCR with an ADA training session. She can provide an overview and help to know how to handle a complaint or who it may need to be directed to. Tentatively scheduled the training for 5:00 pm on February 20, 2019 before the regularly scheduled meeting for the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations. Ms. Gardner advised the Commission that she presented the ADA Sidewalks update has been presented to the City Council and can provide some of the presentation to the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations in February. Discussion of City Council Equal Rights Amendment Resolution that was presented at the November 2018 meeting Discussion if the Commission should send a letter to the Mayor or to City Council that says that they support the adoption of the Resolution that was presented. This has been requested to be added to the Legislative priorities but has not been passed by City Council. Discussion about how the Commission had hoped to have a discussion with the Mayor prior to advising City Council of their support of the addition and how they should proceed. Public Comments regarding the Equal Rights Amendment Resolution Cynthia McNeil advised the Commission that she has spoken with Anita Cotter and that she is

aware that Ms. McNeil asked the Commission to speak to this and they are waiting on the recommendation from the Commission before they move on. Ms. McNeil requested that they do not push this out otherwise it will be out of the Legislative session.

Dee Ogilvy had three things she wanted to say:

- Cynthia has done a great job all over the state and it is just her working on this.
- Agrees with Cynthia that if the Commission postpones their recommendation it is what keeps happening with the Amendment it just keeps getting postponed and pushed out.
- National Organization of Women supports the Commission going to City Council with this and knows that other cities in Missouri are trying to do the same.

Pamela Hernandez made a motion that the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations supports the resolution presented to City Council in support of adding the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the Legislative Priorities and presents a letter of support to City Council and the Mayor stating the such. Heather Hardinger seconded the motion. Discussion of the motion and discussion of the process for the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations to support the Amendment. The motion was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Todd Thomas, Pamela Hernandez, Carlye Wannenmacher, Heather Hardinger, Francie Wolff and Bob Roberts. Nays: Mike Jungers. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

Discussion of writing of letter of support, and Ms. Hernandez is willing to write the letter. Todd Thomas moved to empower Pamela Hernandez to draft the letter consistent with the vote of the Commission. Mike Jungers seconded the motion and it was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Todd Thomas, Pamela Hernandez, Mike Jungers, Carlye Wannenmacher, Heather Hardinger, Francie Wolff and Bob Roberts. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

Discussion of Recommendation of New Members

Mr. Thomas attended a kickoff for Councilman Simpson and spoke with Councilman Ollis as well as Councilman Schilling. He said that they were unaware of a disconnect and Councilman Ollis advised Mr. Thomas that there are two new members being added. Discussion about new members coming on and communication has been made with the Mayor about needing more commissioners and process. Mr. Jungers had a meeting with the Mayor and discussed the membership and member guidelines. Ms. Wolff expressed concern that she is highly involved with political parties and that she has considered resigning from the Commission and is recommending that Cindy Rushefsky take her place or at least be considered for being added to the commission membership. Mr. Thomas expressed concern that he would like for her to not resign. Discussion of the procedure for Ms. Rushefsky to apply as well as how when a current member recommends someone it is a good idea for the member to follow up with the City Clerk's office. Mr. Jungers also advised that the Mayor expressed that a citizen should not be on more than one board or commission as well as that in the near future there will be another one or two people going for approval to be added to the Commission.

Discussion about reappointment and terms.

New Business

Racial Equity Subcommittee Meeting

Heather Hardinger advised that the first meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2019 at 4:30 pm and meeting invitations have been emailed out.

Women's March – January 19, 2019

Pamela Hernandez advised that the group has requested that a member from the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations speak at the march. She will be present and willing to speak as long as okay with the Commission. As the Communications Chair the Commission agreed that it is good for her to speak at the march.

Upcoming Events 2019 Springfield Multicultural Festival – January 21, 2019

Will be at the Oasis Convention Center. Discussion of who will be covering the booth and picking up and returning of supplies.

MLK Walk – January 21, 2019

Panera will be donating the beverages and still waiting to finalize Krispy Kreme donating donuts. Cheryl Clay is still looking for volunteers to help that morning at the Mediacom Ice Park.

2019 Collaborative Diversity Conference

Request for sponsorship approved that provides two tickets for attendance. Discussion of who is able to dedicate the full time to attend and who is interested in going. Mr. Jungers would like to attend, so one of the tickets have been reserved for him. Decision to wait until the January Meeting to determine who the other member to attend should be since there will be two new members that may be interested in attending.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:54 p.m.

Prepared by Lisa Gateley

Todd Thomas, Chair

The minutes of the December 19, 2018 meeting of the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations was approved at the January 16, 2019 meeting of the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations.