

Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations

September 18, 2019

The Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations met in regular session September 18, 2019 in the Busch Building 2nd Floor West Conference Room. The meeting was called to order by Chair Heather Hardinger.

Present	Heather Hardinger, Chair; Pamela Hernandez, Communications Officer; Mary Bozarth, Todd Thomas and Daniel Ogunyemi.
Absent	Carlye Wannenmacher, Vice Chair; Mike Jungers, Bob Roberts and Francie Wolff
Staff	Bob Atchley, Planning and Development; Nick Woodman, Law; and Lisa Gateley, Planning and Development
Guests	Sam Thompson* *Arrived at approximately 6:10 pm
Approval of Minutes	Daniel Ogunyemi moved to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2019 MCHRCR Meeting. Todd Thomas seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Heather Hardinger, Daniel Ogunyemi, Pamela Hernandez, Mary Bozarth and Todd Thomas. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Carlye Wannenmacher, Bob Roberts, Mike Jungers and Francie Wolff.
Public Comments	None
Unfinished Business	Letter to the Editor of the News-Leader Ms. Hernandez and Ms. Hardinger are working with Toni Robinson at NAACP to write a letter to the editor of the Springfield News-Leader regarding unconscious bias. They have been trying to obtain data from the Police Department but having a hard time getting specific data that may be broken down by what the calls are in reference to when nuisance calls are received. Further discussion about what they hope to achieve with the letter and the history of the MCHRCR to be included in the letter. They plan to clear the letter with PIO before they send it to the paper. Finalize Greater Ozarks Pridefest 2019 Details The event is October 12, 2019 from 10:00 am to 10:00 pm. Plan to break down the tent around 3:30 to 5:00 pm. Discussion of who is available to attend and that they would like to have brochures, stickers, candy and copies of the strategic plan to pass out. Ms. Hernandez will pick up the items on Friday, October 11.
New Business	Election of Officers Daniel Ogunyemi moved to keep the Officers the same. Mary Bozarth seconded the motion. Ms. Hernandez advised that she prefers to step down from the Communications Chair role. She advised that she currently updates Twitter, Facebook and does a one-page quarterly update for Mayor McClure. Discussion about the need for additional commissioners and may want to let the Mayor know that they would like to seek someone that has communications experience.

Heather Hardinger moved to table the vote until the October meeting in order to have more feedback from the absent commissioners and possibly solicit volunteers for the Communications Chair position. Pamela Hernandez seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Heather Hardinger, Daniel Ogunyemi, Pamela Hernandez, Mary Bozarth and Todd Thomas. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Carlye Wannenmacher, Bob Roberts, Mike Jungers and Francie Wolff.

Ms. Hernandez is going to send an email to the Commission advising that she would like to step down from the Communications Chair and some information about the role.

Mr. Atchley will send an email to the City Clerk advising that additional members are needed for the MCHRCR.

Forward SGF Discussion

Ms. Hernandez advised that her and Mr. Hardinger had previously discussed with Cora Scott, PIO about the MCHRCR helping to promote Forward SGF.

With the DIY kits that are available, would they want to do a session with the MCHRCR or partner with NAACP or GLO? Mr. Ogunyemi suggested partnering with other like-minded groups as it would be more productive than just doing with the MCHRCR alone.

Mr. Ogunyemi will facilitate, and Ms. Hardinger is willing to help. Plan to do their regular meeting then host the workshop for Forward SGF.

Ms. Hardinger will reach out to the NAACP to see if October 16 at 5:30 will work for them. Ms. Hernandez will reach out to GLO, Mr. Ogunyemi will reach out to Empower: Abilities and Faith Voices.

Mr. Thompson asked if there is a limit to how many people may be able to attend. Ms. Hardinger encouraged him to invite as many as he would like and they will do their best to accommodate. Mr. Thompson advised that Garden Voices may be interested in doing a DIY Workshop as well too.

Complete Count – 2020 Census

Ms. Hardinger and Mr. Ogunyemi attended the Complete Count Meeting for the 2020 Census, and Ms. Hardinger was also appointed to the State Committee. The census is important, and she is trying to educate and engage more people about it and get them excited. Really trying to target some of the key communities that did not get counted in 2010. Looking at the state data there are areas that had only 30% completion of the census. The census will be electronic, and there are still some things that are being worked out with that.

As a group the MCHRCR may help to pass out flyers and facilitate information but are not able to help people to complete the census unless sworn in with the Federal Government. Something to remember is the census will never ask for your social security number or any form of payment. Census day is April 1, 2020.

Greater Springfield Board of Realtors 501C3 – Realtors Helping People

Mr. Thomas advised that the group helps to raise money for low-income, disabled elderly homeowners and do emergency repairs on homes so they may retain the pride of living in their home. The event is October 10, 2019 at the Double Tree new facility and he has tickets for sale

for \$10 and there will be a live silent auction.

Todd Thomas moved to adjourn. Heather Hardinger seconded the motion. The motion was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Heather Hardinger, Daniel Ogunyemi, Pamela Hernandez, Mary Bozarth and Todd Thomas. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Carlye Wannenmacher, Bob Roberts, Mike Jungers and Francie Wolff.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:43 p.m.

Prepared by Lisa Gateley

Heather Hardinger, Chair

The minutes of the September 18, 2019 meeting of the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations was approved at the October 16, 2019 meeting of the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations.