

MINUTES

Mayor's Commission on Human Rights and Community Relations

Wednesday, February 21, 2024 – 5:30 P.M.

Busch Building, 2nd Floor West Conference Room

1. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Jamea Crum, Dan Furtak, Mike Garton, Gail Herbert, Charity Jordan, Rachel Naab, and Jasmine Allen (moved to Zoom at 6:26pm and left meeting at 6:44pm)

Commissioner Absent: Chase Snider

City Staff: Adriana Failla

2. WELCOME NEW COMMISSIONERS

- Charity Jordan provided a warm welcome to Gail Herbert & Dan Furtak

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 17, 2024 & February 12, 2024

- Rachel Naab requested the amendment on the primacy of her name being misspelled.
- Rachel Naab made motion to approve the January 17, 2024 & February 12, 2024, minutes (with the requested amendment). Jamea Crum seconded the motion. Motion approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- A member of the public discussed their previous suggestions and concerns regarding website improvements for the Commission. They also discussed the LGBTQIA+ community's relation to the "sex" protected class category.

5. COMMUNITY PARTNER UPDATE

- Community Speaker, Kai Sutton, President of the NAACP provided information regarding the organization's mission and available opportunities. Isabelle Walker provided insights on the NAACP's Housing Committee and Todd Thomas shared his experiences related to Fair Housing.

6. UNFINISHED and ONGOING BUSINESS

- Commissioner Updates
 - No Updates
- Meeting with the Mayor Update
 - Charity Jordan shared that the meeting with the Mayor



was cancelled again and an attempt to reschedule the meeting will be made.

- Complaints Received
 - Rachel Naab and Mike Garton reported that they have attempted to communicate with the complainant regarding their case, but the complainant has remained unresponsive. The other party to the alleged incidents of discrimination has been responsive.
 - Adriana Failla will contact the Law Department regarding the case being handled by Charity Jordan and Chase Snider, pertaining to potential referral to either the EEOC or MHRC.
- Community Event Activations
 - No Updates
- City Support Staff Updates
 - Adriana Failla stated that the requirements for quorum increased. Recently informed and unaware of this at the time of the February 12, 2024, meeting. The Commission shall proceed forward with rectifying the matter by revoting on the February 12, 2024, agenda items which had been readmitted to the February 21, 2024, agenda.
 - Adriana Failla shared that Brigitte Marrs has extended the invitation for the Commission to attend the June 2024 Mayor's Commission for Children meeting and the Kite & Piñata Festival.
- Discussion and Vote on Strategic Plan
 - Jamea Crum made a motion to adopt the 2024-2026 Strategic Plan. Rachel Naab seconded the motion. Motion approved (6-0, Abstention: Dan Furtak; Absent: Chase Snider).
- Discussion and Vote on Role Recommendation
 - Mike Garton stated that the language drafted and submitted to City Staff regarding the certification recommendation to City Council did not accurately reflect his perspective.
 - Mike Garton distributed a document to Commissioners providing clarification regarding his recommendation.
 - Adriana Failla acknowledged that while she is not a legal expert, some of the suggested topics may necessitate consultation with the Law Department to determine their scope of authority.
 - Adriana Failla clarified that the current discussion pertains to a recommendation, as the ultimate decision rests with the City Council.
 - Adriana Failla informed the new Commissioners that the Law Department, Denis Jefferson from the Civil Rights Enforcement Agency, and Dr. Alisa Warren from the Missouri Human Rights Commission & International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies have all offered insights and education regarding certification.



- Jasmine Allen made a motion to recommend at this time, to not pursue certification. Jamea Crum seconded the motion. Motion approved (6-1, No: Mike Garton, Absent: Chase Snider).
 - The language for the role recommendation will be reviewed.
- Discussion and Possible Vote on MSU Diversity Conference
 - Gail Herbert discussed the proposal to present on the topic of health and wellness.
 - Jasmine Allen made a motion to present at the MSU Collaborative Diversity Conference, if the proposal is accepted. Jamea Crum seconded the motion. Motion approved (7-0, Absent: Chase Snider).
 - Rachel Naab made a motion to request funding for Commissioners interested in attending the MSU Collaborative Diversity Conference. Mike Garton seconded the motion. Motion approved (7-0, Absent: Chase Snider).
- Discussion and Possible Vote on LGBTQIA+ Subcommittee
 - Jasmine Allen and Charity Jordan provided insights gathered from the meeting with the GLO Center.
 - Jasmine Allen suggested the formation of a subcommittee that could develop recommendations representative of the LGBTQIA+ community.
- Discussion on Listening Session Details
 - Topic tabled for Discussion on 2024 Objectives and Key Results (OKRs) agenda item.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- Discussion and Possible Vote on Monthly Meeting Schedule
 - Charity Jordan shared the identified availability to reschedule the monthly Commission meetings.
 - Mike Garton made a motion to change the monthly meeting schedule from the third Wednesday of the month to the first Tuesday of the month. Dan Furtak seconded the motion. Motion approved (6-0, Absent: Chase Snider and Jasmine Allen).
 - This change will take effect either after the completion of scheduled community partner engagements or upon their rescheduling.
- Discussion and Possible Vote on ArtsFest
 - Mike Garton made a motion to request funding to booth at 2024 ArtsFest. Jamea Crum seconded the motion. Motion approved (6-0, Absent: Chase Snider and Jasmine Allen).
- Discussion and Possible Vote on Kite & Piñata Festival
 - Rachel Naab made a motion to request funding to booth at 2024 Kite & Piñata Festival. Mike Garton seconded the motion. Motion approved (6-0, Absent: Chase Snider and Jasmine Allen).
- Discussion and Possible Vote on Enhancement Suggestions

- Mike Garton presented suggestions related to booth improvements, website enhancements, and having a directory of local organizations.
 - Charity Jordan requested Commissioners to review the website and offer insights for discussion at the upcoming meeting.
- Discussion on 2024 Objectives and Key Results (OKRs)
 - Charity Jordan requested Commissioners to review the Objectives and Key Results (OKRs) and offer insights for OKRs and Listening Session discussion at the upcoming meeting.
 - Commissioners will assign primary leads to the OKRs as a point-person to ensure goals are met.

ADJOURN

Mike Garton made a motion to adjourn at approximately 7:38 pm.

Rachel Naab seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Approved on 03/20/2024.

Next Meeting:

March 20, 2024, at 5:30 P.M.

Location Busch Building, 2nd Floor West Conference Room

NOTE: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines, if you need special accommodations when attending a MCHRCR meeting, please notify the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Office at 417-864-1014 as soon as possible to ensure our ability to accommodate your needs. In accordance with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) guidelines, language assistance is also available.

