MINUTES
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
October 15, 2019 6:00 p.m.
4th Floor Conference Room, City Hall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Members' Term Attendance (mtgs attended-mtgs absent)</th>
<th>End of Current Term of Office</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Claire Clark</td>
<td>(06-04)</td>
<td>10/08/20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hamilton Henderson</td>
<td>(06-01)</td>
<td>10/08/21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Jennifer Jackson</td>
<td>(01-00)</td>
<td>10/08/22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Jasper</td>
<td>(10-00)</td>
<td>10/08/22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. Brian Kirk</td>
<td>(08-02)</td>
<td>10/08/20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Terri Lowdon</td>
<td>(07-03)</td>
<td>10/08/20</td>
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<td>Rusty Sumners</td>
<td>(08-02)</td>
<td>10/08/21</td>
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<td>Bridget Supple</td>
<td>(08-02)</td>
<td>10/08/21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faith Ann Williams</td>
<td>(01-00)</td>
<td>10/08/22</td>
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MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Bryan Carter, City Attorney
              Brianna Moe, Recording Secretary

Item #1 Call to Order

Jasper called meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.


Carter and Jasper informed the Commission that certain agenda items would be taken up out of order to accommodate Jasper’s need to leave before the meeting adjourns and to accommodate the outside speaker.

Item #2 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Jasper asked for nominations for Chair of the Human Rights Commission. Supple nominated Summers as chair of the Human Rights Commission. Henderson seconded. No other nominations were made.


Ayes – 9, Nays – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion passed.
As the newly-elected Chair, Summers asked for nominations for Vice-Chair. Lowden nominated Jasper. Rev. Kirk seconded.


Ayes – 9, Nays – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion passed.

**Item #5  New Business**

**Item #5a.  Other related new business**

Jasper recommended asking the council to adopt an ordinance banning conversion therapy in St. Joseph. The Commission discussed such a ban based on the action Columbia, Missouri recently took. Carter stated he would obtain details about Columbia’s ordinance and provide that information at the next meeting.

**Item #4  Old Business**

**Item #4c.  Discuss recommendation to amend Non-Discrimination Ordinance to make mediation assistance available for discrimination in public accommodation**

Jasper stated he spoke to Councilmember Myers and Mayor McMurray and reported that neither thought the City Council would accept the amendment. Jasper also reported contacting Councilmember Blessing and she stated she would support such an amendment. The Commission discussed the amendment and decided to do some research and have a solid case built before they approach the City Council about an amendment. Summers asked Carter to invite the members of the City Council to the next meeting so they can engage in discussion about such an amendment.

**Item #3  Approval of Minutes**

Lowden moved to approve minutes. Henderson seconded.

Voice vote – all present voted in favor; no one opposed. Motion passed.

**Item #4  Old Business**

**Item #4aii.  Outside speaker: Cheri Ball, GLSEN**

Cheri Ball, the Services Coordinator for GLSEN of Greater Kansas City, stated that GLSEN advocates for a safe school for all students, but focuses on the LBGTQ population. GLSEN performs climate surveys and other research and has noted a slowdown in acceptance rates of the LBGTQ students; however, violence has gone down. Ball passed out snapshots from GLSEN’s surveys and discussed some results. GLSEN advocates for policies and inclusive curriculums in schools. The organization cover most of the Greater Kansas City Schools and tries to reach out to rural areas. The organization does professional development that can be a
short training presentation or an all-day workshop. GLSEN focuses on K-12 schools in the area and tailors professional development to schools’ needs. Ball stated she would be willing to do a training for an employer in St. Joseph or recommend another group if needed.

Jasper left at 6:52 p.m.

**Item #4ai. Non-Discrimination Training Debrief**

Dr. Jackson stated she had a hard time getting information about the training so her class could prepare a survey of the event. The students did a survey about the Human Rights Commission instead. Clark stated the Chamber typically sends out a survey after their events so maybe the Commission could get the results of that.

Henderson, Carter, and Supple reported that they attended the training and discussed their impressions of the training. Summers asked if the Commission would get a video of the training. Carter reported that the Chamber of Commerce is currently editing the video. Lowden asked how much the training cost. Carter reviewed the costs associated with the training.

Rev. Kirk left at 7:15 p.m.

**Item #4aiii. Update on future speakers**

Summers asked if there was a speaker for November. Speakers were discussed. Clark mentioned the KCRA would be who she recommends reaching out to if the Commission wants to speak to the real estate board. She recommended Adam Stein as a speaker. Henderson asked about having a round table discussion with the Council. Carter discussed the regulations with that. Summers asked about Melody Smith speaking in November.

**Item #4b. MWSU Subcommittee Report**

Dr. Jackson stated the Subcommittee voted to approve the goals and focus of the Commission so the students will begin working with that direction.

**Item #4d. Other Related Old Business**

None.

**Item #6 City Staff Update**

Carter stated he previously reviewed the budget and expenditures.

Carter directed Commission members’ attention to attachments included in the meeting packet that Jasper requested be distributed.

Carter informed the Commission that there is a CLE requirement for attorneys to attend sessions on “Cultural Competency, Diversity, Inclusion, and Implicit Bias.” If the Commission is interested in
organizing a CLE training that would meet that requirement, Carter will gather more information. Commission members discussed such a training and requested additional information.

Carter stated the Commission’s December meeting is scheduled for December 17 and recommended discussing attendance to ensure a quorum would be present. Lowden suggested keeping the same date and if they find out quorum will not be present, cancel the meeting. Clark agreed.

**Item #8 Future Agenda Overview**

Summers stated they will see about future speakers.

Carter will look into Columbia’s conversion therapy ordinance, invite the Council members to the November meeting, speak to Kristi Bailey (with the Chamber of Commerce) about the post-event survey, and ask about a refund from HyVee for the unconsumed food from the training.

**Item #7 Public Comment**

None.

**Item #9 Adjourn**

The next meeting of the Human Rights Commission will be held on November 16, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the 4th Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

Supple made a motion to adjourn, Clark seconded. No members opposed the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Brianna Moe, Recording Secretary (Legal Assistant)