

**Human Rights Commission
August 6, 2013 Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Scott Dean, Amanda Andrade, Virginia Law, Dalton Calcote, and Gina Long

Members Excused: Matt Mazick

Members Not Excused: Jessica Macy

Guest Present: None

Staff Present: Adam Kruse

- I. **Call to Order/Introductions:** Dean called the meeting to order at 5:41PM
- II. **Approval of Agenda:** Long moved to approve the agenda. Her motion was seconded by Andrade and passed unanimously.
- III. **Approval of July 2, 2013 Meeting Minutes:** Long moved to approve the July 2, 2013 meeting minutes. Her motion was seconded by Law and passed unanimously.
- IV. **Old Business:**
 - a. **Fair Housing Testing:** Kruse updated the Commission on his meeting with Rigel Oliveri and his understanding of the method and timeline she will use for the Fair Housing Testing. Law had questions about how the testing would be conducted, particularly which protected categories would be tested, and how the information would be used if a housing provider was found to be discriminating in their practices. Dean suggested we ask Rigel to come speak at an HRC meeting. Kruse said he would invite her to the September meeting.
 - b. **Rental Housing Website:** Kruse said that he had a meeting with Chris Macy tomorrow at Central Missouri Community Action (CMCA) regarding the website. Andrade suggested that the Chamber of Commerce or REDI be contacted to give feedback on what information to include on the site to make it more useful to realtors and how to best showcase availability to corporate housing.
 - c. **Service Animal Awareness Training:** Commission members discussed the results of the occupational therapy students' project regarding training businesses about service animals. Kruse brought copies of the service animal brochures to show to the Commission. Law suggested these brochures be placed around the City so residents might have access to them. Dean stated that he believed Tracy Graham may have a list of locations that the CPRB Brochures are located and that could be helpful in deciding where to put these brochures.
 - d. **Fluoridation:** Kruse stated that he emailed Scott Clardy regarding the fluoridation report. Kruse said Scott's expectation is still that the report will be completed in August and the HRC will receive a copy of the report as soon as it is completed.
- V. **New Business:**
 - a. **Less Noticed Forms of Discrimination:** Commission members discussed the issue that people can suffer from all types of discrimination, some being based on things not

included in protected categories. Commission members suggested compiling a list of organizations and contacts that people may use as resource, with the aim that the list would cover a broad range of organizations. One idea is that this list be posted on the City's website. Kruse agreed to compile a list and present to the Commission for their approval.

- b. **Projects:** Commission members discussed potential future projects: (1) Dean suggested creating a poster for Columbia employers to give notice that the City includes gender identity and sexual orientation as protected categories in addition to all the other federal and state protected categories. Commission members discussed the idea. Kruse agreed to draft a poster and present it to the Commission for their approval; (2) Law suggested creating something for businesses to hang that is visible and shows everyone that the business is aware of the City's discrimination laws and is complying with them. Commission members discussed the idea and believed a window cling may be an option and this may be something that the HRC could sponsor or work with another organization in completing; (3) Dean suggested the HRC do a yearly report and send it to City Council. Commission members discussed the idea.

VI. **Staff Reports:**

- a. **Law Department:** Kruse reported the following:
 - 1. He finished the HRC letter to the Council and placed in the Council inbox .
 - 2. He will have HRC booths at the Graduate Student Fair and the Pridefest.
 - 3. MCHR offered to include the City's HRC in HUD partnership funding; this would allow the City to have up to \$3,000 to put on a Fair Housing Seminar in April 2014.

VII. **Commission Reports:**

- a. **Columbia Citizen Police Review Board:** Dean shared the issues that the CPRB is discussing currently including having completed a draft of a mediation coordinator agreement for next year's budget.
- b. **Columbia Values Diversity Planning Committee:** Kruse stated that this committee has not yet started meeting.
- c. **Disabilities Commission:** Kruse shared the issues that the DC is discussing currently including allocation of the surplus budget into four projects
- d. **Other Reports:**
 - 1. **CHAMP:** Long updated the Commission on the most recent CHAMP projects including her subcommittee on local public health systems assessment and the results of the City's assessment.

VIII. **Public Comment:** No public comments.

- IX. **Commissioner Comments:** Dean wanted to go on the record to again thank Steve Hollis and his staff and Negar Rezvani for their work with the HRC. Law said that they have been professional, proficient and helpful. Commission members said that all of the work these people have completed for the HRC over the years is really appreciated.

X. Closed Session to Discuss Pending Cases Pursuant to Section 610.021 (1) RSMo: Law made a motion to move to closed session to discuss pending cases pursuant to RSMo § 610.021(1) at 6:46 PM. Long seconded. Law called the roll with the following vote: Dean – Aye, Andrade – Aye, Law –Aye, Calcote – Aye, and Long – Aye.

XI. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 6:54 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Adam Kruse,
Assistant City Counselor
Law Department