

Advisory Commission on Human Relations & Disability Issues

Meeting Minutes

December 4, 2017

5:30 pm

Members present: Cassandra Long- 1st Vice Chair, Jim Echols-2nd Vice Chair, Kim Dominic-Secretary, Kendall McReynolds, Don Jolley, Janice Santiago, Winfred Manning, Karen Greenwood

Members Absent: - Valorie Wells Fenton-Excused, Tom Alonzo-Excused, Wendy Baker,

Other: Phyllis Wallace-Staff Liaison, Ryan Haga-Legal Department

- I. Call to order – Meeting called to order at 5:40 PM by 1st Vice Chair Cassandra Long
- II. Ryan Haga suggested that we not publish an end time. By-laws only show begin time.
- III. Approval of minutes from November meeting – Jim Echols made a motion to approve, Don Jolley seconded. Approved unanimously.
- IV. Membership Changes – Jessie is hoping to be reappointed, would like to continue to attend as a citizen participant, but was unavailable this evening.
- V. Presentations & Reports
 - A. Reports
 1. Human Relations Summit report: Cassandra Long, Karen Greenwood, Phyllis Wallace, and Maritza Fernandez attended. City of Olathe hosted. Each group represented went through and explained what they were doing. We have been added to a list and will be included in future info. Karen Greenwood offered for us to host the regional summit next year in November. We will need to be actively planning well in advance. Many communities are doing many things in conjunction with their law enforcement. Blue Springs was especially active in this area. Cassandra Long will put Jim Echols in touch with the representatives from Blue Springs. We need to continue getting our name out there, and work with some of these new connections that have been made. Phyllis Wallace made a connection with someone who does diversity training among other things. Don Jolley moved to approve that we host next year, Jim Echols seconded, Motion approved. Karen Greenwood will chair the hosting subcommittee. Cassandra Long, Phyllis Wallace, Maritza Fernandez, and Janice Santiago will participate on the hosting committee.
 2. Law enforcement sub-committee report – Jim Echols and Don Jolley are current members. Could use more. The sub-committee needs a title by which to identify themselves. How do we address both Police and Sheriff's department. Sheriff's department falls under state jurisdiction, but their budget comes from the UG. Jim Echols believes that we need to focus on the police department initially, and learn our lessons there before we work with the Sheriff's department. Plan is to work with them in a very positive way. Jim Echols suggested that we formally adopt an official name, add additional members, and schedule a tentative date to meet with Police Chief or Deputy Chief by the next meeting. Winfred Manning offered to be included on the committee. Kendall McReynolds moved that the subcommittee be called: Special Committee on Law Enforcement. Karen Greenwood seconded the motion, Approved. Jim Echols will make initial contact by next meeting.
 - 3.

VI. Old Business

A. One-Year Plan review – We need to schedule the next Meet & Greet at the South Library. Cassandra will contact the library. The deadline for brochure needs to be extended due to Valorie’s recent surgery and Jessie’s current status. We also need to push back deadline for Partnership with KU and KCKPD addressing youth violence. Disability concerns can added to our next meeting.

1. On topic of Youth Violence, Don Jolley reported on a project in Argentine called “Snack Shack” where kids hang out after school. Located next to library in Argentine. Might be worth members stopping by to check it out. It’s a 501c3. Sponsored by YouthFront. Kendall McReynolds asked if it would it make sense for us to have a youth auxiliary at some point? We will add something regarding youth to our strategic plan.

B. Pamphlet – Valorie Wells-Fenton and Jessie Alvarez – Postponed until Valorie is present.

C. Person of the Month – Need to move further out. Phyllis Wallace and Cassandra Longwill look for templates.

D. Other Old Business – Nametags have been ordered and should be in next week

VII. New business

A. Strategic planning – We have the plan, but we need to be clearer on our vision and strategy. Cassandra Long shared a plan from Springfield. They developed their focus areas and then identified what they do in each of those areas, and what they will do. We will need to set some agenda time or an outside meeting to develop this kind of thing further. This could be tied in with the brochure, but could also go into more depth.

B. Upcoming events

1. Human Services Department Winter Meet & Greet – Friday, December 15, 1:30-3 PM, City Hall , 6th floor conference room. No RSVP required.

C. Phyllis suggested that the Human Relations link on the Human Services website might include a profile of each of the members of the ACHRDI. We each need a picture and a mini-bio (100 words) for posting. “What’s Your Why?” was suggested as a guideline for the bio. Karen Greenwood suggested going back and looking at the applications for some details. Cassandra Long will come up with a template for this as well.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 6:32 PM.

NEXT MEETING: January 8, 2017, 5:30 PM