

Commission on Human Relations & Disability Issues

Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2021

5:30pm

Members Present: Jim Echols, Marge Gasnick, Julie Xiong, Tom Alonzo, Abbie Dillard

Members Absent: Don Jolley, Abbie Dillard, Christina Van Cleave, Karen Greenwood

Others Present: Maritza Fernandez

- I. Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by chair
- II. Old Business
 - A. Review of October 2020 minutes – No changes
 - B. Item H – Community and Police Task Force. Abbie Dillard gave an update saying she has reached out to the mayor asking to be made aware of any other commissions. There has been no communication since that outreach, mainly due to COVID and other priorities, but Ms. Dillard said she is hopeful to re-establish contact this year.
 - C. Motion to approve October minutes by Jim Echols/second by Tom Alonzo. Motion passed.
- III. Goals and alignment
 - A. Next month the commission will work on goals. Housing/landlord tenant issues. Look at Missouri resolution as a model. Hopefully by next meeting we will have something to look at and consider for Wyandotte County.
 - B. Better communications
 - C. Healthcare issue. Extension on Medicaid was completed. Abbie will ask Karen Greenwood for an update next month.
 - D. Tom Alonzo stated he is working on the Metropolitan Equality Index and will have something to share next month.
 - E. Safe and Welcoming Wyandotte – Tom said there will be another meeting at the end of January about this ordinance and he was contacted by someone about this issue. ACHREDI has already voted its support of the ordinance and sent a letter.
 - F. Abbie Dillard asked members to come next month with more ideas of topics to focus on in 2021 and be prepared to share about it.

G. Tom mentioned one more topic: Kansas Poor People's Campaign

IV. New Businesses

- A. ACHRDI bylaws – Do they contain non-discrimination language? Ask Jim Baine if any other commissions have a non-discrimination clause in their by-laws. Abbie Dillard said our by-laws should contain that language.

V. Open discussion

- A. Jim Echols said he heard the news that all state capitols are under alert for disturbances this weekend, similar to what took place to the US Capitol last week. More is expected in days leading up to Jan. 20th. Discussion around taking care of one another and staying safe in this troubling time. Expressions of hope for the future.

Meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.