

**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 7, 2022**

The City of Fulton Human Rights Commission met on Monday, March 7, 2022 at 5:15 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room in City Hall, 18 E. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Fulton, Missouri. The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m. by Carmen Brandt, Chair of the Commission. Roll call was noted by Laure Long, Deputy City Clerk, and the members present were: Carmen Brandt, Tom Clapp, LeWanda Jackson, Adrienne Lindsey, Sherry Lococo, Don Stassel, and Mayor Cannell.

The Commission members thanked the Mayor for attending the meeting.

**COMMENTS FROM VISITORS**

There were no comments from visitors at this meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM JANUARY 31, 2022.**

The January 31, 2022 meeting minutes were presented for approval.

Motion was offered by Tom Clapp and seconded by Don Stassel to approve the January 31, 2022 minutes. Motion carried with six members of the Commission voting in favor.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**a) Fair Housing Month Project Discussion**

Laure Long, Deputy City Clerk, said she reached out to the Missouri State Commission on Human Rights to find out what the Fair Housing Month theme would be for this year, but she reported the theme hadn't been announced yet.

Some discussion followed how the Callaway County Public Library was holding a Bookmark Contest, and the Commission thought doing something similar to that would work well for a Fair Housing Month Contest. The Commission liked the idea of doing a "Design a Postcard Contest" and asking Darin Wernig, Public Information Officer, to design the entry form.

Different theme ideas were discussed, and the Commission decided on "Won't You Be My Neighbor" as the theme for the contest.

Carmen Brandt said she spoke with Valerie Sebacher, Fulton Housing Authority Executive Director, and said she was still interested in partnering for the contest. For this year, the Commission decided the contest will only be open to residents at the Fulton Housing Authority.

The Commission decided to open the contest to two different age groups; 12 & Under and 13-18. Mayor Cannell approved every participant receiving a one day pass to Legends Rec-Plex,

and cash prizes awarded for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners in each age group; \$50 for 1<sup>st</sup> place, \$25 for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and \$10 for 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

Laure said she would talk to Darin about designing the postcard entry form and to have them ready to go by April 1<sup>st</sup>, and would also talk to Clay Caswell, Parks and Recreation Director, about securing Rec-Plex day passes for the participants. The deadline for the contest will be April 30, 2022 and the Commission will meet again on May 2, 2022 to select the winners.

#### **b) Juneteenth Discussion**

Carmen said Sherry McBride was going to take the idea of partnering with the Human Rights Commission for the Juneteenth event to the NAACP. The Commission would like to start with something small, with hopes that it will take off for an annual event.

Carmen said she would ask Dr. Cooper if he would be interested in speaking at the event, and she will also ask Reverend Washington if his choir would be interested and available to sing. Alan Combs, Council Liaison, said he would ask Marlene Railton if her community choir would be interested in singing.

The Commission would like the event to be held Saturday, June 18, 2022 at the Amphitheater at Veterans Park from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Laure said she would talk to Parks and Recreation about reserving that date for the Commission. The Commission would like to invite food trucks to the event, and Carmen said she will email Courtney Doyle, City Clerk, to be placed on an upcoming City Council agenda to request the Council's approval for that.

Mayor Cannell said he would like Juneteenth as a topic in the next City of Fulton Newsletter, and the Commission would like the event promoted on the City Facebook page and in the Fulton Sun.

#### **c) Calendar of Ethnic Celebrations Discussion**

Carmen said she would like to educate people on different cultures, and would like to do so utilizing the City of Fulton Newsletter. A Heritage Month Guide was presented to the Commission that was located on DiversityCentral.com. The Commission would like Darin to work off of the Guide to include a small section of monthly heritages celebrated in the Newsletter.

#### **d) Other Unfinished Business**

There was some discussion about the Jane Bierdeman-Fike Award. Don said Jane developed the School of Social Work at William Woods University and thinks it might be a good idea for the

School of Social Work to take over the program. Some discussion followed about Jane's involvement at Fulton State Hospital and the community as a whole.

Tom would like to bring the Award back in December and open it to all people and not just women. Some discussion followed about it possibly being a good time to make some changes.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **a) Other New Business**

There was no other new business to discuss at this meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business to come before the Human Rights Commission, motion to adjourn was offered by Tom Clapp and seconded by LeWanda Jackson. Motion carried with six members of the Commission voting in favor and the meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

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Laure Long  
Deputy City Clerk