



WELLNESS COMMISSION LEE'S SUMMIT

ACTION LETTER

Wednesday, November 13, 2024

1. Call to Order

Chair Craig officially called the meeting of the Wellness Commission to order at 6:07 p.m. in the Strother Conference Room at City Hall, 220 SE Green St.

2. Roll Call

Members Present

Chair Craig
Vice Chair Hubbard
Commissioner Brandhorst
Commissioner Cantrell
Commissioner Denny
Commissioner Evans
Commissioner Kraemer
Commissioner Nolke
Commissioner Severt-Culbertson
Commissioner Silvers
Commissioner Wichman

Staff Present

Susan Barry
Cynthia DeShazo
Christal Kliewer Weber

Absent

Commissioners Cygan and Salanski.

3. Public Comments

None.

4. Approval of the Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Brandhorst, seconded by Commissioner Denny, to approve the agenda as posted. The motion carried by a unanimous 11-0 vote. (Commissioners Cygan and Salanski absent).

5. Approval of the Sept. 11, 2024 Action Letter

A motion was made by Vice Chair Hubbard, seconded by Commissioner Nolke, to approve the Sept. 11, 2024, Action Letter. The motion carried by a unanimous 11-0 vote. (Commissioners Cygan and Salanski absent).

6. Review of Stakeholder List and Category Assignments

Ms. Kliewer Weber, Assistant City Manager, noted due to technical difficulties with computer software that this could not be discussed tonight. Twenty-two organizations need to be added to the list of stakeholders, with roughly 100 currently on the list. Commissioner Kraemer mentioned the Community Health Organization of Missouri, which used to be the Regional Commission for St. Louis, is going statewide and that they may need to be added to the list. Vice Chair Hubbard also suggested The Kansas City Relationship Institute be added to the list.

7. Creation of Livable Streets Subcommittee

Five citizen names along with their backgrounds were submitted for consideration for this subcommittee. Discussion centered around Livable Streets policies, asking if Commissioners need to have prior knowledge to be on this subcommittee. The answer was no, since Commissioners can be taught and educated about livable streets policies.

David Gale is a developer for areas such as New Longview and Winterset, and he is interested in the LS 360 planning process and livable streets. Mr. Gale incorporates connectivity in his developments.

Mark White was on the original livable streets planning committee before it was passed, and he does this kind of thing for a living such as re-writing communities' Unified Development Ordinances around the nation. Mr. White also chairs another City board.

Shashi Gannavaram is an engineer and develops streets, roads, designs and is semi-retired. He is a long standing member of the community for 25 years. Mr. Gannavaram is now a consultant.

Matt Krusemark, who would be an alternate, just relocated to the area from Colorado, and does drone work. Mr. Krusemark previously did engineering and technology and is an interested citizen of our community.

Sgt. Aaron Evans has 27 years of experience on the Lee's Summit police force, some in traffic operations, and would be referred to as a subject matter expert. Sgt. Evans is an active member of the community.

Commissioners Kraemer, Denny, Nolke and Wichman are all interested in serving on the subcommittee. Commissioner Kraemer has been involved with Livable Streets since it was introduced some 15 years ago and has a vested interest in historic reference and seeing the livable streets concepts continue in the City. Commissioner Denny joined Livable Streets in 2014 and he bikes, walks, runs and mentioned sidewalk gaps from the 1980's. Connecting a community is important and Commissioner Denny enjoys helping on the UDO.

Commissioner Nolke is new to Livable Streets, is learning about walkability, and she enjoys the trails and being outside. Commissioner Wichman was previously on the Livable Streets Committee and wrote an article every month for the Livable Streets Board. Commissioner Wichman learned quite a bit about walkability, connectivity, and riding for transportation in a community.

8. Nominations and Assignment member for the Livable Streets Subcommittee

A motion was made by Commissioner Nolke, seconded by Vice Chair Hubbard, to create a subcommittee that focuses on Livable Streets aspects and naming David Gale, Mark White, Shashi Gannavaram, Sgt. Aaron Evans and Matt Krusemark as citizen appointees. The motion carried by a unanimous 11-0 vote (Commissioners Cygan and Salanski absent).

A motion was made by Commissioner Brandhorst, seconded by Commissioner Wichman, for Commissioners Kraemer, Denny, Nolke and Wichman, to be on the Livable Streets subcommittee. The motion carried by a unanimous 11-0 vote (Commissioners Cygan and Salanski absent).

9. Discussion regarding December meeting

December 18 was decided upon for the next meeting, possibly along with the Cultural Commission.

10. Roundtable

- a. List of Public Education Months, Weeks, Days

A list of months, weeks, or days with a focus on public education are being sought. Examples include suicide prevention walks, health education advisor, etc. If any members of the commission have suggestions, please share with the group.

Commissioner Kraemer attended a Jackson County Public Health meeting earlier today. Topics discussed were behavioral health and economic stability plus affordable housing. They are early in developments, but things are progressing. Also, the Kansas City Healthy Lifestyles Collaborative is very wide-scope, and Commissioner Kraemer encouraged all Commissioners to participate.

Commissioner Cantrell noted the recent passage of the new tax to support organizations that fund services assisting seniors, and asked if there been any discussion or representation from the City to obtain some of those funds. Ms. Kliewer Weber noted there is no information available yet. Chair Craig noted that there would likely be a commission formed to determine funding streams, and staff is still waiting for the County to move forward.

Vice Chair Hubbard mentioned joining a deaf mental health coalition on the Kansas City, KS side.

Commissioner Brandhorst shared that Legacy Park made some trail repairs, and he was glad to see while he was recently riding out at Knob Noster State Park the 988 signs posted nearby. The Jackson County Trip the Lights Fantastic, a bike ride through the Longview Christmas in the Park, is set for Nov. 24 at 5:30 p.m.

Commissioner Silvers shared that on Nov. 24, the Ministerial Alliance will host a community Thanksgiving worship service at 7:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 1625 NW O'Brien Road. Along with the service and music provided, a collection will be taken to support member congregations in providing financial assistance to those in need through the holiday season.

Commissioner Evans shared that this is the season to purchase Major Saver cards. Funds go toward the Lee's Summit Education Foundation. The Lee's Summit Optimist Club will not be having their November pancake breakfast. The next one will be coming up in February.

Commissioner Severt-Culbertson mentioned she is donating her yoga studio space for a monthly rest and renew yoga nidra class, to a group who focuses on veterans, first responders and their families. The first one is set for Friday, Dec. 14, from 8 to 9 p.m.

Chair Craig mentioned that the Mid-America Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for first responders council created a sub-committee focusing on veterans and first responders. The Chamber also has a military affairs committee which supports veterans affairs. There will be a Hometown Heroes Veterans award luncheon for Nov. 15. ReDiscover is having a 55th year birthday bash at the Stanley, in the Aspen Room, on Dec. 9 from 4 to 7 p.m. to honor their past 55 years and exciting future news.

Ms. Kliewer Weber mentioned the City Council Rules Committee is looking at broadcasting other boards and commissions to increase transparency. More discussion will be coming next week, then this will be presented to the City Council for consideration.

11. Adjourn

Chair Craig adjourned the meeting of the Wellness Commission at 7:28 p.m.

12. Swearing-in and Mini Orientation for New Members

The City Clerk could not attend so the swearing-in did not happen this evening.