



LEE'S SUMMIT MISSOURI

City of Lee's Summit, MO Human Relations Commission

Summary of the August 28, 2023 Meeting

Members Present:

Vanessa Hickman
Tony Meyer
Astra Garner
Debbie Brooks
Fel Bagunu (arrived at 6:38 pm)
Kerrie Lindberg
Saadia Mahmood
Christy Engemann (arrived at 6:44 pm)

City Staff:

Anita Dickey
Stacy Lombardo

Call to order

Chairperson Hickman called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

3. Introduction of new Commissioner, Debbie Brooks

Chairperson Hickman introduced new Commissioner, Debbie Brooks, and asked her to introduce herself to the commission.

4. Approval of May 22 and July 24, 2023 meeting summaries

A motion was made by Kerrie Lindberg, seconded by Astra Garner, to approve the Action Letter dated May 22, 2023. The motion passed by a unanimous 6-0 vote (Commissioners Fel Bagunu, Jennifer Novogoratz, Christy Engemann, Anne Wallace and Maria Morgan "Absent").

A motion was made by Saadia Mahmood, seconded by Vice-Chair Tony Meyer, to approve the Action Letter dated July 24, 2023. The motion passed by a unanimous 6-0 vote (Commissioners Fel Bagunu, Jennifer Novogoratz, Christy Engemann, Anne Wallace and Maria Morgan "Absent").

5. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

6. Discuss Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration

Chairperson Hickman asked the Commission to begin thinking about a theme for the 2024 event. She would like to order t-shirts so the group will need to decide on a color. The event will be held at John Knox Pavilion in partnership with the school district.

7. Discuss Proposed Cultural Celebration

Chairperson Hickman reminded everyone the commission chose April 27, 2023 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm to hold this event. The plan is to block off the street by the train station and it will be held



rain or shine. She then asked Commissioner Mahmood to report on her conversation with the coordinator of the Cultural Celebration at Swope Park.

Commissioner Mahmood stated the vendors at the Swope Park event are required to be members of the commission. The booths are built to specifications to meet Health Department requirements and are stored at the Parks Department. There are audio/visual needs if a stage is used for performances. The commission does not allow politics or religion (unless it is fundamental to the culture). Passports are given to every attendee to have stamped at each booth they visit so vendors are required to have their passport stamp area staffed at all times.

The commission asked Mrs. Anita Dickey, Human Resources Director, to look into if the vendors have to have their own insurance, business licenses and permits. She was also asked to check if the commission can have sponsors to help with costs.

There was a consensus of the commission to have 40 booths. Other discussions included marketing on Facebook with an insert in the water bills, renting the booths from other organizations or just using tables and chairs, checking with the Chamber of Commerce to see if they would help with a one page passport that could be hole punched and there was a suggestion to start looking for swag donations.

Chairperson Hickman expressed a desire to partner with the school district for this event.

8. Roundtable

Each Commissioner was called on to provide comments.

9. Adjournment

Chairperson Hickman adjourned the August 28, 2023 meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Stacy Lombardo