



# LEE'S SUMMIT MISSOURI

## City of Lee's Summit, MO Human Relations Commission

Summary of the January 23, 017 Meeting

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**Members Present:**

Curtis Cook  
Dale Beasley  
Kimberly Hollins  
Carin Sampson-Harris

**City Staff:**

Denise Kelly  
Colene Roberts

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**1. Call to order**

Mr. Cook called the meeting to order at 6:50pm.

**2. Approval of December 5, 2016 meeting summary**

The meeting summary for Dec. 5 was approved.

**3. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**4. HRC membership diversity**

At the last meeting, there was a discussion about the value of having a diverse membership on the Commission. Commissioners recognized the need to be mindful of this when filling vacancies.

**5. Commission vacancies**

There are two vacancies. Kelli Easley and Edgar Palacios have resigned. The City's website continually accepts applications for the Commission. However, those applications were reviewed very recently and it is unlikely that there are new applications. Mr. Cook noted that during the last round of interviews, there was an applicant who stood out. The Commissioners agreed to recommend that applicant for one of the vacant positions. Ms. Kelly reviewed that the Commission must have one representative from each of the following community sectors: education, business and faith. The remaining four members should represent the community at-large. Commissioners discussed their desire to have stronger ties to the business sector of the community. Mr. Cook will inform Julie Pryor of the Commission's selection to fill the first vacancy. Pastor Beasley has a contact who may be interested in serving. He will suggest filling out an application. Ms. Sampson-Harris and Ms. Hollins will coordinate to set up interviews for the second vacancy. All interviewed applicants should be informed once a recommendation has been made to the Mayor.

**6. Election of Commission Officers**

Mr. Cook lamented the need to elect officers without input from every member. However, the election is one month past due and should not be further delayed. Pastor Beasley was nominated for Chair. He accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. The Commission unanimously voted to elect Pastor Beasley as Chair. Kimberly Hollins was nominated to serve as Vice Chair. She accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations. The Commission



unanimously voted to elect Ms. Hollins as Vice Chair. Mr. Cook will email Julie Pryor and Mayor Rhoads to inform them of the new officers. New officers will assume their duties at the next meeting.

#### **7. Social media report**

Ms. Sampson-Harris stated that there are now 577 Facebook followers. The MLK event post was seen by 1522 users, had 954 video views, 23 clicks, 6 shares. Pastor Beasley said that he would send pictures from MLK to be posted.

#### **8. MLK 2017 Planning**

Pastor Beasley reported that there were a few minor issues at the event. Two performers canceled: Campbell Middle School and the jazz band. There were some issues related to the severe weather over the weekend but the event was still well attended. The set-up went exceptionally well. Responses after the event were very good. Guest speaker, Bob Kendrick, was excellent. The planning committee is having their wrap-up meeting soon. Pastor Beasley would like to begin working on the 2018 event soon, by getting a speaker scheduled. He suggested inviting the choir from Summit Christian Academy next year. Mr. Cook mentioned that the new Catholic high school may also need an invitation. Pastor Beasley is challenging other pastors to create an on-going community choir.

#### **9. Community-wide Common Read**

Copies of the bookmark-style information piece on the event were shared. Ms. Hollins would like to get extra copies to share at school. Ms. Kelly said that the City's management staff are reading and having three discussion sessions on the book. She also mentioned that the author's website has a nice video clip that could be shared.

#### **10. Roundtable**

Ms. Sampson-Harris said that the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce has a program called Resilient KC to look at the impact and resources for people with childhood traumas. They are trying to reach 18-24 year-olds with their survey.

Mr. Cook shared an invitation to the Diplomatic Ball on April 8. In previous years, the Commission has used budget funds to pay for tickets for Commissioners. The ticket deadline is March 13 but it will take the City some time to cut a check. Ms. Kelly suggested that Commissioners RSVP as soon as possible and provide checks to cover guest/spouse tickets by the next meeting. Tickets were purchased for Student Commissioners last year but they did not attend.

Ms. Kelly noted that she needs the Commission's budget requests by the end of February. Some items that may need to be included: tickets for the Diplomatic Ball, NAACP, Human Rights Conference, and MLK event.

#### **11. Items for the agenda of the next scheduled HRC meeting on February 27, 2017**

To be determined.

#### **12. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Colene Roberts