



LEE'S SUMMIT MISSOURI

City of Lee's Summit, MO Human Relations Commission

Summary of the May 23, 2022 Meeting

Members Present:

Vanessa Hickman
Anne Wallace
Christy Engemann
Dr. Fel Bagunu
Jennifer Novogoratz
Astra Garner

City Staff:

Anita Dickey
Stacy Lombardo

Call to order

Chairperson Hickman called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

3. Approval of the March 28, 2022 meeting summary

A motion was made by Commissioner Wallace, seconded by Commissioner Garner, to approve the March 28, 2022 Action Letter. The motion carried by a unanimous 6-0 vote (Commissioners Birmingham, Meyer, and Schuler "Absent").

4. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

5. Discuss Community Service Opportunity

Chairperson Hickman started the conversation by giving a brief review of the community service opportunity to pass out \$25 QuikTrip gas cards to those spreading kindness. She reminded everyone the Commission cannot receive money but she reached out to the Ministerial Alliance and they have agreed to help. The possible theme of "Fueling Lee's Summit with Kindness" has been changed to "Keep Spreading Kindness". The Commission then discussed fundraising ideas that included "Share the Proceeds" at restaurants, setting up a Go Fund Me account and having a booth at festivals and other events. Suggested restaurants included Culvers, Sonic, Chipotle, Papa Johns, Applebee's and concessions at baseball games. August was targeted for when to begin passing out the cards to line up with Back to School. It was agreed by the Commission they would like to hand out 20-30 gas cards and would prefer the cards be for \$25 or less.

Ms. Anita Dickey, Director of Human Resources, shared a mark-up of a sticker Creative Services put together to go on sleeves for the gift cards. There were no suggested changes to the sticker and Ms. Dickey was asked to check into ordering the sleeves. Ms. Dickey then reported she contacted HyVee about donating gift cards or paying a discounted rate and was told they were not interested in participating. She also checked with other city staff regarding the pros and cons of having a booth at festivals and events and was told staffing booths has been challenging for other



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commissions and it is hard to get a clear message across with visitors only stopping for a few brief minutes.

6. Discuss future agenda items

Chairperson Hickman stated the Martin Luther King Jr. event is January 16, 2023 at 5:00 pm. Possible ideas include a gospel choir and the opposite of a gospel choir, bell ringers, living statues, dancers (Latino, Native American, Pacific Islander), vendors, coloring books and middle school band and choirs. The event is very well attended but there is a need for advertising throughout Lee's Summit to reach those that don't have regular interactions with the city. City staff was asked to check on the availability of John Knox Pavilion and any fees involved.

The Commission also discussed inviting speakers to future meetings to find out what other groups are doing good in Lee's Summit. Commissioner Novogoratz agreed to contact Shelly Sanders from LSR7 to invite her to speak about Diversity and Inclusion.

7. Roundtable

Commissioners reported on things such as 2 days left for teachers before summer break starts, how the Commission can work with the Lee's Summit Diversity and Inclusion Commission, parenting classes offered by Lee's Summit CARES, an organization that is looking for 8-12 year-olds to join their Board, and events offered in Grandview including arts, poets and mental health. Ms. Anita Dickey, Director of Human Resources, was asked to read the group's Vision and Mission statements and discussion ensued regarding different events and ideas on ways to participate which included working with the Lee's Summit Economic Council for representation at Downtown Days, working with the Lee's Summit Arts Council for an ethnic festival in August or during October Fest and a suggestion was made to call it "Celebrate Lee's Summit at Legacy Park", and to hold an event during Christmas to celebrate all the different religious holiday's occurring at that time.

Ms. Anita Dickey agreed to inquire about setting up meetings with the Parks and Recreation Board, the Arts Council and the Economic Council. She will e-mail her findings to the group.

8. Adjournment

Chairperson Hickman adjourned the May 23, 2022 meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Stacy Lombardo