



Grandparents Against Gun Violence Meeting Minutes June 24, 2019

Our Mission:

We work to reduce gun violence to keep all children safe at home, at school and in our community.

President Judy Sherry convened the meeting at 4:05 pm at Colonial Church in Prairie Village.

Judy described the success of National Gun Violence Awareness Day at J. C. Nichols Fountain in the Plaza attended by more than 40 and covered by KCTV-5 and KSHB-41.

LIFL – Barb McNeile announced the second anniversary of LIFL will be celebrated at the July 22 meeting. Volunteers will be recognized and birthday cake will be served. Since July 2017, there have been 83 LIFL events where 1,848 free gunlocks have been distributed. Twelve events are scheduled through the end of 2019.

Upcoming events:

- July 27 - KCPD Central Patrol Safety Fair
- August 3 – Summerfest
- August 29 – Truman Medical Center Safety Fair

Panera Fund Raiser will be held after the July 22 meeting at Corinth. 20% of the proceeds will be donated to GAGV. Please attend and bring family and friends!

Gail Robeson recognized Madison Mustoe, the Shawnee Mission East graduate who produced the video *Lock It For Love*. Dr. Shayla Sullivant and Kansas Representative Jerry Stogsdill, both featured in the video, were also present. The video can be accessed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yfbl8UsmDfA> or on the GAGV website at <https://moksgagv.org/> Please share on your social media.

Heartland Community Forum – Carla Oppenheimer

- Monday, October 14, 8:30-2:30, KU Edwards Campus
- To learn more about the forum or to become a sponsor, go to GAGV website: <https://moksgagv.org/community-forum/> or contact Barb McNeile at bmcneile@gmail.com or Chris Glenski at christinemglenski@gmail.com for a sponsor packet.
- Individual tickets will go on sale in August.

Advocacy – Carla Oppenheimer

- Today's advocacy action is a Petition for Common Sense Gun Regulations.
- In response to our March Advocacy action of sending a postcard to thank Dick's Sporting Goods CEO Edward Stack for the decision to stop selling guns in many of its stores, Judy read a thank you from Mr. Stack:

Thank you for sending me your thoughts. Please know that we are committed to keeping this conversation going around common sense gun reform.

Barbara Holzmark introduced today's speakers for **The Road to Sensible Gun Laws: Still Miles to Go.**

Rep. Stephanie Clayton, who has served in Topeka since 2013, and Rep. Judy Morgan, who has served in Jefferson City since 2011, discussed firearms-related bills introduced in Kansas and Missouri during the most recent legislative session. Of particular interest were bills related to background checks and Extreme Risk Protection orders (ERPO).

Reps. Clayton and Morgan advised:

- Know your state representative and meet with him or her.
- Most legislators pay most attention to their own constituents.
- Good legislation takes seven years to pass; be patient.
- Know the players. Ask your representative who he or she is supporting for leadership roles. The Speaker and the Committee Chairs hold all the power re how or if a bill moves through a committee to a vote.
- Although both are receptive to all forms of communication, emails are preferred and short messages are fine.

Rep. Stogsdill encouraged us to wear our orange shirts and go to Topeka to greet legislators before they go into session. "They hate to see your orange shirts!"

Henry Stoeber of Peaceworks said this as an ideal time to visit legislators. Go to Labor Day and 4th of July events and parades and also consider doing a LIFL event at the gun show at the OP Convention Center on July 4-5.

The next meeting will be Monday, July 22 – **Helping our LGBTQ Youth Thrive and Survive.**

Submitted by
Charlotte Davison, GAGV Secretary