



Grandparents Against Gun Violence Meeting Minutes December 3, 2018

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 introduced today's speaker, Chris Haxel, part of Guns & America, a groundbreaking new national reporting collaborative in which 10 public media newsrooms will focus on a singular issue, the role of guns in American life. The stations, representing a diverse range of communities around the country, will report on how guns impact us as Americans, from the cultural significance of hunting and sport shooting, to the role guns play in suicide, homicide, mass shootings and beyond. KCUR is the Kansas City partner. The Audion Fellowship funds the project with the goal that at the end of two years the reporters will be experts in guns and gun issues and can spread this knowledge to other newsrooms.

- Chris cited the importance of people who know about guns reporting on gun issues because mistakes question credibility. They are not anti-gun journalists; they understand the complex and nuanced issue of gun ownership.
- In answer to a question of why GAGV members should know about guns and not just gun violence, Chris said when we can't explain or don't understand kinds of firearms, their parts, etc., we are deemed unqualified for the conversation, and it will be used as a way to keep us out of the conversation. There is also value in understanding the knowledge and views of people on the other side. We might be surprised to learn that how gun owners feel about gun laws or other gun issues depends on the owner; there are many liberal gun owners.
- Recent Guns in America stories:
 - Left In Carry-Ons, TSA Agents Find Thousands Of Guns At Security Checkpoints
 - For Father-Daughter Pair In Oregon, Hunting Is A Chance To Empower And Connect

www.kcur.org/term/guns-america#stream/0

Advocacy: Sheryl Porter explained today's advocacy action: sending a postcard to Academy Sports and/or Dick's Sporting Goods in response to Academy's advertising insert in the KC Star promoting gun sales on its front cover and Dick's Black Friday mailer promoting a discount on firearms and guns being the perfect "gift." According to the Wall Street Journal, Dick's lost business due to the ad. It no longer sells assault weapons and does not sell to people under the age of 21.

Congratulations to GAGV members Judy Sherry, Julie Young, Barbara Holzmark and Phyllis Stevens for being honored with Kansas City's 70 Over 70 Award recognizing 70 individuals who inspire others and improve our community.

Sandy Hook Candlelight Vigil: Join GAGV and Moms Demand Action at State Line Crossroads, 43rd and Stateline, Friday, December 14, 6:30-7:30 pm to honor the victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting. Signs will be provided.

Judy Sherry closed the meeting at 5:30 pm.

The next meeting is Monday, January 28, 2018, 4:00 pm at Colonial Church.