

York City Human Relations Commission

28 E. Market St
York, PA 17401

Monthly Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2014

Call to order:

Commissioner Fitch calls the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll call:

In attendance- Commissioners, Fitch, Sawor, Sexton, Rhodes, Williams, Chronister. Staff- Ramirez.

Public Comment:

No public comment

Approval of minutes:

Motion to approve minutes moved by Commissioner Sawor; seconded by Commissioner Chronister. All in favor.

Report of Acting Chair:

Former Commissioner Aponte resigned last week (as of Jan. 14). The board needs to recruit a Secretary/Treasurer. If anyone is interested, please advise prior to the next meeting on February 17.

City Council will be presented three candidates for approval Raquel Lilly, Amy Chamberlin, Rebecca Moore.

Teamwork 2014 calendars have been handed out; compliments of the YCHRC. We will be distributing them to business throughout the city along with an Employment Provision of the York City Ordinance.

HUD recertification- we are required to submit 6 months to 1 year of working on HUD related cases and have our staff levels at an acceptable level to even be considered for recertification.

City employees received a COLA adjustment on January 1, a letter was sent to the Mayor to approve staff to receive this adjustment. The Mayor will amend the ordinance, to go in front of council, amending Art. 185.10 of the codified ordinance of the City of York by adding a subsection B 4.2. Cost of Living Adjustment for HRC employees in repealing in any city ordinance or city order that is inconsistent with this article.

Report of Secretary/Treasurer:

The City went on hold at the end of the fiscal year. We haven't added any invoices until they close out the books for 2013 and open the 2014 books.

Standing Committee:

Commissioner Williams and Commissioner Fitch will meet with an attorney and investigator to start looking at bringing someone in, at a contractual basis, to get the work done. Commissioner Rhodes has concerns about who is on the Personnel Committee. Commissioner Sexton suggests appointing Commissioner Williams as Personnel Committee chair, who accepts the position. Commissioners Sexton and Chronister are also appointed to the Personnel Committee.

Practice & Procedure:

Commissioner Rhodes met with Carl Summerson- Permanent Hearing Examiner for the PHRC. 101 changes were made in addition to what has already been changed. Commissioner Rhodes is appointed as Chair to the Practice and Procedures Committee. The final edition should be ready to be submitted by the Feb meeting and everyone will have a copy.

Communications:

An appointment letter was received from Mayor Bracey recommending City Council approval Raquel Lilly as a Commissioner.

The meeting dates for the York County Advisory Council and the PHRC Commission meetings were reviewed.

Revision of the December Case Docket. Commissioner Rhodes suggests that we keep track of any cases the YCHRC refers to PHRC. He requests the HRC follow up and request data for the past year for York County.

Commissioner Sexton states that the Crispus Attucks will be hosting a Question & Answer regarding Race Relations and other topics on February 9.

Commissioner Chronister updates the board with a review of the oldest HRC cases. She informs that 3 cases can be dismissed, the other 5 need to be reviewed by an attorney. There is an outline for the incoming investigator/attorney for what stage the cases are in, names, numbers and any other info needed. Commissioner Rhodes suggests waiting for the Practice and Procedures to be finalized before any decisions are made.

Unfinished Business:

York County Holiday schedule differs from the City Holiday schedule. The County building that houses the HRC office is closed on certain holidays the City operates on. A letter regarding this issue was forwarded to the Mayor; an official response has not been received.

New Business:

Commissioner Rhodes met with the Advisory Council. At the meeting, a group from HACC student government group joined the meeting to be involved from a college person stand point and to have them exposed to what's going on. They are willing to volunteer in the HRC office. C. Rhodes told them he would bring it to the table and see how we can get them involved, maybe as an internship. HRC is to contact HACC and see what the requirements are.

Commissioner Sawor asks for clarification on the Practice and Procedures. Commissioner Fitch explains that instead of piece mailing the Practice and Procedures, Commissioner Rhodes will submit the full compliment of the changes to the Practice and Procedures all at once.

Commissioner Fitch reviews the Budget vs. Actual budget report for 2014. The allocation for the Attorney is discussed. Commissioner Fitch explains that at the City Council Budget hearing, it was noted, that the current amount may not be enough to retain an attorney.

The HRC Meeting dates were discussed because the next official meeting falls on a Holiday. These dates may need to be revised for the next calendar year.

Commissioner Rhodes inquires about establishing a motions commissioner. Commissioner Fitch states that a motions commissioner will be added to Feb meeting.

Motioned to adjourn:

Moved by Commissioner Chronister and seconded by Commissioner Sexton. Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.