

# CITY OF YORK HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

28 East Market Street  
York, PA 17401

## MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 15, 2014

### Call to order:

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

### Roll Call:

In attendance- Commissioners Fitch, Sawor, Lilly, Sexton, Rhodes, Williams, Chamberlin, Moore and Woerthwein. Staff in attendance- Ramirez, Thompson-Morgan.

### Public Comment:

No public comments.

### Approval of Minutes:

June 16 meeting minutes. Moved by Sexton, seconded by Woerthwein. Approved.

Special Meeting minutes. June 23, 2014. Woerthwein moves, seconded by Moore. Approved.

### Report of Acting Chair:

Commissioner Rollins-Fitch welcomes the new HRC investigator as of July 7, 2014, Tonya Thompson-Morgan.

*Note:* As of August 8, 2014 Commissioner Cheril Chronister has resigned from the Commission.

On August 25, 2014 the Pennsylvania HRC hosted their public monthly meeting at the City Council Chambers.

Commissioner Fitch met with the Mayor in August. The Mayor had recently met with the Pennsylvania Student Equality Coalition, who want the York non-discrimination policy to have a change to include gender identity and expression. Information was received and we were asked to review it and think about how we can proceed with the changes.

The Equality Fest Committee did an outstanding job hosting the August event; great turnout, great reaction, great feeling.

In July, Commissioner Fitch did a radio interview with WSBA Mark McKenzie, which aired in August, regarding the HRC.

Outreach and Education for low-moderate income in the community before the end of the year.

The January 12, 2015 meeting will have to be rescheduled due to a conflict in scheduling for Council Chambers. Commissioner Sawor moves to amend the motion carried on June 16, 2014 moving the January meeting of the third Monday of the month to the fourth, rather than the second Monday of that month. Chamberlin seconds. Motion carries.

A brief docketed case report was presented to the Commissioners by Mrs. Thompson-Morgan. The reported was tabled until the next scheduled meeting in October.

### Report of Acting Secretary/Treasurer:

Commissioner Lilly put together a Finance Report for the members listing the expenditures since the last meeting. The report is reviewed and discussed. Commissioners Lilly and Fitch will be meeting with the Deputy Business Administrator to discuss the 2015 budget.

**Personnel Committee Report:**

The description for the Manager position has been completed and sent to the HR department for approval.

**Planning and Community Relations Committee Report:**

Booked community stand at Central Market the second Saturday of every month through October to distribute information. Also, the committee has been working with the community centers on each end of town to coordinate housing informational sessions. Another possibility is having a multicultural conference in March. A discussion amongst the committee took place and everyone was for it. Contact with investors, donators and hosts took place and positive feedback was received.

The Sixth Annual Diversity Summit in Hanover will take place on October 14, 2015. The HRC will have an informational table set up as well as several Commissioners will attend.

**Nomination and Leadership Committee:**

A motion to keep the current Executive Committee- Commissioner Fitch as Chair, Commissioner Sawor as Vice Chair and Commissioner Lilly as Secretary/Treasurer for the permanent slate as moved by Commissioner Sexton. Seconded by Moore. Motion carries, voting on the slate of officers will be taken in October.

Commissioner Fitch requests for a Commissioner to step up and fill the vacancy in the Nomination and Leadership Committee, Lilly volunteers for the position.

For the vacant seats on the Commission, a resume and contact information is needed in order to nominate anyone that is interested. Assistance in finding a qualified candidates from the community was asked from the Latino Coordinator-Nate Rivera and Executive Director of the Centro Hispano -Jose Colon.

**Social Media Committee:**

The City of York Human Relations Commission Facebook page was created, it can also be found in a search of CYHRC. So far we have received a number of "likes" and comments on the page. All the Commission information has been added and the Commissioner pictures have been posted.

**Communications:**

Commissioner Fitch welcomes City Council President Carol Hill-Evans to the meeting. Council President brings up a few concerns as far as the Facebook/media pages. She extends the offer for the HRC to consult with the City Solicitor if any questions come up about these pages. She thanks all the Commissioners for their willingness to serve on the Commission.

An invitation to Centro Hispano Fourth National Hispanic Heritage Month Fall Festival on Saturday, October 4, 2014 from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.at Renaissance Park. They are asking for a donation in sponsorship level, a reminder, we did give a donation towards their community day.

Jazz Night for Planned Parenthood is coming up on November 15, 2014. Please let staff know if you will attend.

Well Family Life Center and the Church of God- La Voz Alta, a time for revival to be held October 11, 2014 from 1:00-5:00 p.m. Will be held at Renaissance Park. They are seeking sponsorships and donations from local businesses.

Crispus Attucks is hosting the Sonny Simpson Play Zone Park and Build Dedication on Sept 20, 2014.

YWCA is offering a retreat "I Am" Weekend of Self Discovery on September 26-28, 2014 for girls ages 10-14.

**Unfinished Business:**

In June, a discussion was held about a Branding and Public Relations Committee. Commissioner Chamberlin was asked to chair the committee but turned down the position at this time.

Commissioner Woerthwein volunteered to chair a committee to look into making the HRC into a county wide program. This committee will not be populated until some issues are worked out.

**New Business:**

The LGBT Center in Harrisburg are currently working on a LGBT history project and they are looking to having a satellite campus in York. They are doing surveys in the community but they do not have enough people helping them out with distributing the information. Commissioner Sawor is asking for the HRC to help get out the surveys/information at future events.

A discussion about donations and supporting certain organizations unfolded. It was agreed not to make any donations because the timeframe is too short to take a vote.

**Adjournment:**

Commissioner Lilley motions adjournment, Moore seconds. Motion carries at 8:28 p.m.