

ERIE COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON JUNE 24, 2013

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Tom Wellington at 6:13 p.m. on June 24, 2013. The following Commission members were in attendance: Tom Wellington, Judy Jobes, Amy Danzer, Robert Currie and Willie McAdory. The following Commission staff members were also present: Joseph Aguglia and Heidi Meyer. The following Commission member was absent: Mary Hayes.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was cast by Amy Danzer to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 22, 2013, as written. The Motion was seconded by Robert Currie. All were in favor. Motion was cast by Amy Danzer to approve the minutes of the meeting held on May 20, 2013, as written. The Motion was seconded by Ebony Davis. All were in favor. Later in the meeting, after discussion regarding absences, a Motion was cast by Judy Jobes to amend the minutes of the meeting held on May 20, 2013 to indicate that Ebony Davis had attended that meeting by phone. The Motion was seconded by Amy Danzer. All were in favor.

III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

A. CASE STATUS: Joseph Aguglia reported that he met with Complainants in a new housing case referred to HRC by HUD. HRC continues to have more employment cases than housing cases. Lately, most of the new cases in employment have been regarding disability issues.

B. HRC'S ANNUAL EMPLOYMENT SEMINAR – JUNE 27, 2013: This year's event will be held in the Hemingway Room of the Ambassador Hotel on Peach Street at I-90. There are currently approximately 100 people registered to attend.

C. OUTREACH AT THE ANTIOCH AND SHILOH CHURCHES – MAY 26, 2013: Executive Director, Joseph Aguglia, indicated that he spoke at a joint church meeting (held at the Antioch Church on 21st and Sassafras Streets) on this date last month and that he provided attendees with information regarding the Commission and its services.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. PRIDE PARADE AND RALLY - AUGUST 24TH: The HRC will have a display/informational table set up at the PRIDE Rally at Perry Square on August 24, 2013. The Parade to the Square is scheduled to begin at 1:00 p.m., and attendees should be at the Rally in the Square around 2:00 p.m. Commissioners are asked to assist with the manning of the HRC table at the event and should contact the office to let staff know if they can assist and at what time.

B. FIRST ANNUAL FAMILY RESOURCE FAIR - AUGUST 23RD: The HRC will have a display/informational table set up at the First Annual Family Resource Fair at the Pfeiffer-Burleigh school gymnasium on August 23, 2013 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 pm. The event is free to the public and is designed to provide the community with information as to the resources/services available to the community. The event is being held in conjunction with the Eighth Annual Back to School Free

Haircut event the following day at the school. Commissioners are asked to assist with the manning of the HRC table at the event and should contact the office to let staff know if they can assist and at what time.

C. 2013 CELEBRATE ERIE – AUGUST 12-18TH: The HRC will have a display/informational table set up at the 2013 Celebrate Erie event from August 15 - 18, 2013. The exact times during which the table will need to be manned will be provided later, but Commissioners are asked to assist with the manning of the HRC table at the event.

D. FORMULATING A DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMISSIONER'S ROLE: After a lengthy discussion regarding what the role of a Commissioner is, it was requested that the Commission Executive Director and Staff formulate a document that summarizes the role that could be used when representatives are looking for people to fill a vacant seat and/or when a new Commissioner has been appointed.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. WHAT CONSTITUTES AN "EXCUSED" ABSENCE FOR COMMISSION MEETINGS? Commission members believe it is too difficult to formulate a list of reasons for absences that would be "excused" versus "unexcused." They ask that staff make a spread sheet to track attendance and whether or not prior notice and/or reason is given for an absence. If attendance becomes an issue, the Chairperson will address it with the party/parties involved.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT: No one from the public was present.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m. Motion was cast by Amy Danzer and was seconded by Ebony Davis. All were in favor. The next regularly-scheduled Commission meeting will be held on July 22, 2013.

Respectfully Submitted by Staff, Heidi Meyer.