

ERIE COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 25, 2014

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chair, Tom Wellington at 6:10 p.m. on November 25, 2014. The following Commission members were in attendance: Tom Wellington, Amy Danzer, Judy Jobs, Robert Currie, Robert Howden and Mary Hayes (joined by phone at 6:31 p.m. for election of officers). The following Commission staff members were also present: Joseph Aguglia, Charlotte Scalise and Heidi Meyer. The following Commission members were absent: Willie McAdory, Victoria Taylor, and George Morgan III.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion was cast by Amy Danzer to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 28, 2014, as written. The Motion was seconded by Robert Howden. All were in favor.

III. DIRECTOR'S AND FINANCIAL REPORT:

A. FAIR HOUSING TESTING: Joseph Aguglia reported that he is still waiting to hear from the City with regard to the City approving a budget for the testing that has been requested by the City. Specifically in question is whether the City will provide money for the advertising of the Request for Proposal to be published in newspapers throughout the Region. The HRC does not want to go to the expense of advertising the RFP if the City is ultimately not going to fund the project.

B. ACT 137 FUNDING: Joseph Aguglia asked Members whether or not the HRC should try to obtain funding through Act 137. There was concern that in order to expand the role of the Commission to undertake some of the projects that the County Planning Department wants the HRC to undertake in order to assist the County in addressing the Fair Housing Action Plans drafted as part of the County's "Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing," the County Council would have to change the ECHRC Ordinance, and more HRC staff would be needed. The consensus of the Members was that the HRC should limit any request for Act 137 funding to activities/projects that are already covered under the Ordinance (e.g. fair housing testing and education/outreach).

IV. OLD BUSINESS: See "Director's Report" for the discussion regarding Testing.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

A. ELECTION OF COMMISSION OFFICERS FOR 2015: At the October, 2014 meeting, the following nominations were made and accepted for the 2015 Commission offices:

CHAIR: George Morgan III – Nominated by Victoria Taylor

VICE-CHAIR: Robert Howden – Nominated by George Morgan III

SECRETARY: Amy Danzer – Nominated by Victoria Taylor and Robert Howden

All Members present unanimously decided to conduct elections at this meeting, as the next regularly-scheduled meeting will not be held until January of 2015. Voting for officers took place after a call for other nominations was made (there were no other nominations offered). The following were the election results:

CHAIR: George Morgan III was unanimously elected, following Motion by Judy Jobses to approve the nomination, which Motion was seconded by Amy Danzer.

VICE-CHAIR: Robert Howden was unanimously elected, following Motion by Amy Danzer to approve the nomination, which Motion was seconded by Robert Currie.

SECRETARY: Amy Danzer was unanimously elected (with Amy Danzer abstaining from the voting), following Motion by Robert Howden to approve the nomination, which Motion was seconded by Judy Jobses.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:39 p.m. Motion was cast by Robert Howden and was seconded by Robert Currie. All were in favor. The next regularly-scheduled Commission meeting will be held on TUESDAY, January 27, 2015. There will be NO MEETING in the month of DECEMBER, 2014.

Respectfully Submitted by Commission Staff, Heidi Meyer.