

# **ERIE COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON APRIL 22, 2013**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Tom Wellington at 6:08 p.m. on April 22, 2013. The following Commission members were in attendance: Tom Wellington, Amy Danzer, Bob Currie, Judy Jobes and Mary Hayes. The following Commission staff members were also present: Joseph Aguglia, Charlotte Scalise, and Heidi Meyer. The following Commission members were absent: Ebony Davis (excused/unexcused ?? – schedule conflict) and Willie McAdory (unexcused).

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion was cast by Mary Hayes to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 25, 2013, as written. The Motion was seconded by Amy Danzer. All were in favor.

### **III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

**A. CASE STATUS:** Joseph Aguglia reported that the HRC currently has approximately 36 employment discrimination cases and 7 housing discrimination cases pending.

### **IV. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. LINK EVENT – APRIL 23, 2013:** The HRC will have a display/informational table set up at the LINK Event (for the elderly and people with disabilities) at the Bayfront Convention Center on April 23, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 pm. and from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The event is free to the public and is being advertised on local radio and television.

**B. OUTREACH AT THE ANTIOCH AND SHILOH CHURCHES – MAY 26, 2013:** Executive Director, Joseph Aguglia, indicated that he will be speaking at a joint church meeting (held at the Antioch Church on 21<sup>st</sup> and Sassafras Streets) on this date next month. Any Commission member interested in attending is welcome to attend.

**C. OTHER EDUCATION/OUTREACH IDEAS – WHAT TO DO NEXT:** Commission members in attendance discussed various ideas for education and outreach opportunities. Some viable ideas included: speak at the church where former Commission member Elaine Stanton's husband is pastor (Friendship Baptist); diversity training with Honey Stempka (need to determine the target audience and budget for and timing of training); speak at Commission member Mary Hayes' church (Word of Life Christian Center); speak at Commission member Willie McAdory's church; speak at Rotary Club; reach out to various cultural groups, such as the Katan immigrants; speak at the Muslim Cultural Center (26<sup>th</sup> and Parade Streets); speak at the Turkish Center (28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> and State Streets); man a table at Erie Days; man a table at the PRIDE Rally and Picnic; and support the Solar Decathlon coming to Erie. Commissioners are encouraged to contact the HRC office with other ideas/events as they arise.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. HOMEBUILDER'S ASSOCIATION HOME SHOW APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup> – 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2013:** HRC staff (Joseph Aguglia, Heidi Meyer and Charlotte Scalise) and Commission member, Tom Wellington, participated in manning an informational table at this event. It was well-attended.

**B. HRC'S ANNUAL HOUSING SEMINAR – APRIL 17, 2013:** This year's event was very well-attended. Excluding speakers and staff, approximately 45 people (including Commission member Bob Currie) attended. Local television stations (channels 12, 24 and 35) included coverage in their 12:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. news shows.

**C. 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. Commission members may attend for free. Tom Wellington suggested, as a possible topic at the seminar, the fact that there is a new Executive Order calling for the hiring of at least 7% of people with disabilities in federal jobs.

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

**VII. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m. Motion was cast by Amy Danzer and was seconded by Mary Hayes. All were in favor. The next regularly-scheduled Commission meeting will be held on May 20, 2013.

Respectfully Submitted by Staff, Heidi Meyer.