

Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations
Minutes of Meeting
June 4, 2018

Attendance:	Liddy Barlow (by phone)	Wasiullah Mohamed
	Winford Craig, Chair	Richard Morris (by phone)
	Sharyn Henry	Allyce Pinchback
	Eric Holmes	Lori Roth
	Eric Horwith	Jessica Ruffin (by phone)
	Marian Lien	Gwendolyn Young
	Gabriel McMorland (by phone)	

Absent: Helen Gerhardt
Mariana Padias

Staff: Carlos Torres, Director
Megan Stanley, Deputy Director
Richard Rogow, Commission Rep.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Craig called the meeting to order at 3:30pm.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Richard Morris provided a missing date for the May minutes regarding the HACCP comment period, which ended May 31st.

Commissioner Young made the motion to accept the minutes as amended. Craig made a motion to adopt the minutes as written, seconded by Commissioner Roth.

IV DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Director Torres requested that Commissioners sign up for the table at the Pride event

- The PghCHR conducted phone interviews with 5 candidates for the Investigator position vacated by LeeAnne Davis, selected two for in-person interviews, and made a final selection and hire, to start on June 18th.
- There will be a three hour implicit bias training for PghCHR Commissioners and staff in August at the PA Human Relations Commission at Piatt Place, facilitated by the Bureau Pgh Police, which received a federal grant so that the Commission will bear no cost. We will invite PA and County Commission staff to participate as well.

V. FINANCE REPORT

Commissioner Young reported that the committee had met and that all is going well. The Director has presented a draft to the committee, to develop and revise together, which will then be presented to the Commission for a vote before submission to the City. The Director reported that he will be presenting a request for CDGB funds that are meant to advance Fair Housing to hire a full time staff member to conduct outreach and education and various equipment needed for outreach and education. There will also be a request for funds for Commissioners to do strategic planning for long term goals of Commission and for the Youth Human Relations Commission. The budget is due to the City Office of Budget and Management in September. The budget will be presented to the full Commission by the Finance Committee and Director in early September for discussion and vote.

VI. COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Commissioner Lien reported that the committee canceled its last meeting. The question is how we go into our communities to better understand community-police relations, but there are concerns regarding parallel efforts so that our PghCHR committee should redirect efforts to follow up on the Human Rights Assessment questionnaire. Commissioner Lien will be working to bring together a meeting of Community Relations committee members with the Director to decide the best ways to proceed with that possibility.

Commissioner Horwith suggested that Commissioners who are having a hard time meeting the time requirements of the committee might let other Commissioners take their places. The Director suggested that since the Commission will be having elections in July and that Commissioners might let the new Chair which committees they wish to work on.

VII. HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Morris reported that the committee will be conducting an overview of all the work and goals of the committee. He requests that Rachel Salem share that meeting information with all Commissioners so that they can learn more about those efforts.

VIII: PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Commissioner Holmes reported that he has the City's evaluation processes for review by the Personnel Committee to possibly revise our own process for evaluating the Director.

IX. PUBLIC HEARING SECTION

The Director reported that there will be an upcoming Public Hearing, Theron Pitts vs Community Human Services, and stated that Commissioners are welcome to attend.

X. BYLAWS AD HOC COMMITTEE

Commissioner Young stated that the committee had discussed the need to have more people physically present at the meetings and that phone attendance should be an option of second resort. They are also considering an orientation for new Commissioners, not just annually, but with repetitions as needed as new Commissioners joined. They are also reviewing the Media policy. The Director will send out a copy to all Commissioners and whoever is interested will be invited if they contact Commissioner Young.

XI. AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR YOUTH HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Commissioner Pinchback reported that they are still waiting to hear from Welcoming Pittsburgh regarding other examples in other cities. Director Torres attended County Youth Commission. We are also waiting on budget request of \$5000 to serve approximately 10 students with plans still to be worked on. Commissioner Pinchback also requested other Commissioners to share any information on other funding opportunities.

XII. NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Commissioner Young presented their slate of recommended nominations for the election in July. Commissioner Craig stated that if anyone wanted to run for a position, that Commissioner could ask two other Commissioners to sign a petition to the nominating committee to be placed on the slate. The Director stated that the staff would send out the petition form after the meeting. Commissioner Pinchback stated concerns about transparency and clear communication about the process for selection for the slate and noted that endorsements by the nominating committee are

being incorrectly called a "slate" which implies that there are not other possible choices through petitioning. The slate with new candidates that have petitioned to run will be sent out ten days before the election. Chairman Craig stated that Commissioners' suggestions and questions will be useful for possibly revising our bylaws to increase transparency and better communication regarding the process.

NEW BUSINESS

None

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Pynchback with a second from **Commissioner Roth?**