

Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations

Minutes of Meeting

February 3, 2020

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners: Wasiullah Mohamed, Chair

Michael Bartley

Rev. Liddy Barlow

Zack Block

Tracy Baton

Jennifer Presutti

Staff: Megan Stanley, Director

Wesley Speary, Deputy Director

Rita Porterfield

Jam Hammond

Rachel Shepherd

Guests: Hillary Roman, ADA Coordinator, City of Pittsburgh

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mohamed called the meeting to order at approximately 3:37 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Guest Speaker has been rescheduled to attend another commission meeting

III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

☞ Correction of name spellings, notably Alaa Mohamed and Hillary Roman.

☞ Motion by Commissioner Barlow; Seconded by Commissioner Presutti; unanimous voice vote in favor of the motion

☞ No abstentions; no votes in opposition

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

V. COMMITTEE & STAFF REPORTS

☞ **Director's Report**

☞ Director's written report was distributed in advance of the meeting

- ⌘ Meeting with the Mayor went well, with the Mayor being accepting of Commission Goals for 2020
- ⌘ HealthCorps wants to discuss partnership in Commission's mapping project
- ⌘ "Hateful Activities" → proposed legislation by Councilman Burgess
 - ⊖ would make it unlawful for city employees to engage in "hateful activities"
 - ⊖ there is a need to clarify distinctions between Commission's work and Human Relations Act violations versus "hateful activities" violations
 - ⊖ Public officials are not included in the definition of city employee
 - ⊖ Staff of elected officials are also outside of the definition of city employee
 - ⊖ Councilman Burgess' legislation looks to the act taken and not at its impact
- ⌘ Commission may look to Human Relations Ordinance amendments:
 - ⊖ Change Employer to business with 1+ employees
 - ⊖ Remove exemption of workers in "domestic service"
 - ⊖ Clean-up for consistency or clarification (can be done administratively and not necessarily by formal amendment)
- ⌘ Outreach in Knoxville/Beltzhoover area, where need is great but population is often overlooked
- ⌘ URA assisting in identifying/analyzing impediments to housing stability
- ⌘ Filling Commissioner vacancies:
 - ⊖ FAQ may be a good solution for new appointees
 - ⊖ Perhaps, before appointment, meet with Director

Finance Committee:

- ⌘ Contract with CMU Create Lab being signed; desire to have a continuing contract clause included so continuing the project would require only a vote of Commissioners as opposed to a new Contract bid.
- ⌘ Contract with CMU Create Lab is available to Commissioners.

☞ Community Relations Committee

- ☞ The committee has not yet met
- ☞ Meeting scheduled for 2/12/2020 at 12:30 p.m.

☞ Housing Committee

- ☞ Discussed meetings and minutes requirements
- ☞ Planning April event, considering 2 ½ hour time slot on a weekday evening
 - ⊖ Considering Energy and Innovation Center (formerly Connelly Trade School) with catering and childcare
 - ⊖ Bus transportation is a concern
 - ⊖ Looking to work with Tammy Thompson of Circles
 - ⊖ Focus on storytelling and mapping
 - ⊖ Create individual learning stations
 - ⊖ Tentative dates are April 16 or April 28
 - ⊖ Affirmative Forward Fair Housing Task Force (“AFFTF”) can help present progress toward goals
- ☞ Considering having a CLE course w/ Allegheny County Bar Association to focus on Fair Housing in April

☞ Personnel Committee

- ☞ Participating in City Fair Hiring Training
- ☞ Developing scoring rubrics
- ☞ Developing questions for phone interviews
- ☞ Changes in job descriptions –
 - ⊖ Utilize Job Evaluation Tool (“JET”)
 - ⊖ Job Description Questionnaire (“JDQ”)
 - ⊖ May collaborate with AFSCME Union to address those workers covered by a collective bargaining agreement

☞ Public Hearing Committee

- ☞ Planning to conduct training with Mark Hamilton
- ☞ Suggestion of a webinar format for use as future training

VI. NEW/OLD BUSINESS

- ⌚ Mediation Training reminder
- ⌚ National League of Cities
 - ⌘ Lead Agency in designing housing solutions
 - ⌘ Reduce evictions
 - ⌘ Pittsburgh/Commission will be participating, if Commissioners approve. May pilot new programs/solutions
 - ⊖ Motion to approve participation by Commissioner Barlow
 - ⊖ Seconded by Commissioner Block
 - ⊖ Unanimous voice vote in favor, not abstentions
- ⌚ March meeting to take place at Rodef Shalom
- ⌚ Outreach log – handed out in meeting
- ⌚ United Nations Sustainability Development Goals:
 - ⌘ Focus on:
 - ⊖ No Poverty
 - ⊖ Gender Equality
 - ⊖ Decent Work and Economic Growth
 - ⊖ Reduced Inequalities
 - ⊖ Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
 - ⌘ Each committee should dedicate four (4) hours of meeting time to adopt and discuss metrics for these goals.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Commissioner Bartley; Seconded by Commissioner Baton; unanimous voice vote in favor, no abstentions. Adjourned 5:00 p.m.