

Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 4, 2020

Attendance: virtual meeting via Zoom.

Commissioners:

Will Tolliver, Jr.

Wasiullah Mohamed, Chair

Rev. Liddy Barlow

Tracy Baton

J. Matthew Landis

David C. Bush

Rabbi Sharyn Henry

Zack Block

Michael Bartley

Staff:

Megan Stanley, Director

Wesley Speary, Deputy Director

Rita Porterfield

Emily Costello

Chris Soult

Rachel Shepherd

Jam Hammond

Mark Hamilton, Solicitor

I. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Chair Mohamed Called the meeting to Order at 3:33 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT(S)

- a. Anupama Jain
 - i. Gender Equity Commission genderequity@pittsburghpa.gov
 - ii. Exec. Dir.
 - iii. Mission to achieve gender equity
 - iv. Recognition of non-binary construct

v. Common elements

III. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- a. April 6, 2020
- b. Comments: none
- c. Motion to Adopt Minutes as noted by Commissioner Landis; Seconded by Commissioner Block; unanimous voice vote in favor.

IV. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORT

a. *Director's Report*

- i. *May not be able to reschedule Housing public event in 2020 because it is a large public event.*
- ii. *Earth Day Teach In*
- iii. *Web site to include news, press releases, etc.*
- iv. *National League of City meeting every two weeks*
- v. *Starting mediation program for LL/T issues*
- vi. *MDJ Course on fair housing*
 1. *Cmsr. Baton suggested training for social workers*
 2. *Can work through Community Relations and Housing Committees*
- vii. *Expected to add language as a protected class*

b. *Finance Committee*

- i. *10% in cuts of "non-essential"*
- ii. *Analysis ongoing, anticipated to be able to absorb cuts*
- iii. *Working on docs for 10% cut for next year; this year's cuts on track. Small budget, and essential/non-essential determinations did not seriously alter budget*
- iv. *City announced hiring freeze*
- v. *HUD has competition money available in reaction to COVID-19*

c. *Community Relations Committee*

- i. *Outreach Log available*
- ii. *Will Tolliver will be joining Community Relations Committee*
- iii. *Town Halls – for the Asian Pacific Islander Community; recognizing public safety and mental health; uptick in ethnic violence and intimidation*

d. *Housing Committee*

- i. *Fair Housing CLE has 18 registrants*
- ii. *Landlord Trainings can be recorded*
- iii. *Fair Housing Proclamation*
- iv. *Create Lab site is live*
- v. *Advertisement – delays, FB rejections; incline/PAT and buggy ads fell to back burner under COVID-19 restrictions*
- vi. *ACHD to change language in letter regarding evictions and ACHD inspection*

e. *Personnel Committee*

- i. *Exec. Dir. Review*

ii. *Scheduling an issue, conflict of by-laws/HR*

iii. *June date*

f. Public Hearing Section

i. *Four (4) cases on track for public hearing.*

ii. *Scheduled for mid-June; if resolved, no progression to Hearing*

iii. *If progressed, could be Fall or end of year.*

V. NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

a. *HUD Partnership Funding RFP -- video production; max budget \$25K, split b/t HUD and CDGB; will be sharing publicly soon*

b. *Annual Reports comments/edits are open*

i. *Improvement over last year*

ii. *Infographics are an addition to make information more shareable*

c. *New Legislation enactment 5-12-20 vote scheduled*

d. *CREATE website launch (see housing story at <http://housingpgh.earthtime.org>)*

i. *Today, new website address pgh.earthtime.org*

ii. *Hill District changes from 1950 to today*

iii. *Transportation (data laden)*

iv. *Will link from CHR website*

e. *June 2020 Election for Commission Officers*

i. *No longer a nomination Committee*

ii. *Send out survey for interest and then election in June.*

f. *Breaking: moratorium on evictions extended on May 11; coalition on legal aid, some landlord foundations, etc. Letter to push moratorium until end of May 2020. Commissioners willing to sign? General consensus in favor*

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Commissioner Bartley; seconded by Commissioner Block; unanimous vote in favor.