

Erie County Human Relations Commission

Minutes – June 27, 2017

Attendance

Commissioners: Bob Howden, Willie McAdory, George Morgan, Tracy Leet, Sean Calhoun, and Amy Danzer

Staff: Joe Aguglia, Charlotte Scalise and Wayne Harbison

Commission Members Not in Attendance

Connie Manus called saying she sick.

Tony Logue is not in attendance. No contact had been made as to why he is not in attendance.

There is still one open position on the Commission.

Meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm

Approval of Minutes

Tracy Leet made a motion to approve the minutes from May. This was seconded by Sean Calhoun. They were approved unanimously.

Directors Report

Sean Calhoun is the newest commission member, appointed by Kathy Fatica. The position from Jay Brenneman is still open.

Joe Aguglia handed out the draft of the testing report that he wrote. He explained what fair housing testing is for our newest Commissioner. Joe will send this report electronically to all Commissioners. Commissioners are asked to send edits to Joe by next Monday. Upon discussion, several members felt a more succinct report focusing on the evidence that there are still problems with discrimination throughout Erie County. It was suggested that this report should state that testing was done in several geographic areas throughout the county.

Reviewing the case log included with the report, the information presented is from January 2016 to June 8, 2017. There are many more employment cases than housing. Information about protected classes and other information are included. It was suggested that the chart be modified to state the duration of these statistics and that this is the number of filed complaints but that inquiries are not included in these numbers. There are roughly three times as many inquiries as filed complaints.

Old Business

Our Employment Seminar had about 140 attendees. It had nice TV coverage.

The Pride Rally was held last week at which we had a presence. About ten individuals with potential complaints or issues came to our table. There were at least 400 people attending the rally.

The general office brochure is done but it isn't available to be handed out.

New Business

George Morgan has arranged to be interviewed on Super Soul Saturday on July 15 @ 1:15 pm to discuss the work of the Commission. This is expected to be about 15 to 30 minutes long. Bob Howden will look into WQLN's interview program and the community access television opportunities to get the word out about the Commission. Bob will also look into getting onto Lisa Adam's weekend program.

Celebrate Erie is August 18-20. We need people to volunteer from noon to seven on Friday, ten to seven on Saturday and noon to five on Sunday.

Public Comment or Open Discussion

The NAACP has new leadership following the recent election of officers. The next meeting will be June 29 at the Quality of Life Learning Center at 5:30 pm. George Morgan is one of the new officers.

Adjournment

Bob Howden moved that the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by Tracy Leet and approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:43 pm.