

**Erie County Human Relations Commission**  
**Minutes – April 24, 2018**  
**Renaissance Centre, 1101 State Street**  
**14<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room**

**Attendance**

Commissioners: Bob Howden, Sean Calhoun, Amy Danzer, Hallie Hilinski, & Connie Manus  
Staff: Charlotte Scalise, Wayne Harbison, & Joe Aguglia

**Commissioners Not in Attendance**

Tony Logue was not in attendance. (Unexcused)  
Willie McAdory was not in attendance. (Unexcused)  
Tracy Leet called to inform that she would be absent.

**Meeting was called to order at 6:35pm**

**Approval of minutes:** Sean Calhoun motioned to vote on the approval of the previous meeting's minutes, Amy Danzer seconded the motion. Passed unanimously

**Director's Report:** Joe Aguglia informed the Commissioners that there is still no word from County Council if they will be bringing the ordinance up for a vote. Joe also informed the Commissioners that he is expecting a good turnout for the seminar on April 25<sup>th</sup>. Lastly, he noted that there has been an increase in cases this year. Moreover, it has been more housing cases than employment. Bob Howden suspects that it may be because of the commercials that have been running on television.

**New Business:** Housing Seminar on Wednesday April 25<sup>th</sup>. Charlotte informed the Commission that 87 are due to attend the seminar and they are expecting a few unexpected attendees at Blasco Library. Urban Agrihood and the County Health Department will be speaking on the topic of food deserts. Joe added that he will be speaking on LGBT discrimination issues, more specifically bathroom laws similar to SB2 in NC. Charlotte is still working on location for employment seminar, also considering raising rates for attorneys who want a CLE certification. Amy Danzer motioned to vote to raise the fee by \$20 for those receiving a CLE certification, Connie Manus seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

**Old Business:** Charlotte reminded the Commission that the PSAs started running on January 3<sup>rd</sup> and will finish May 2018. Additionally, they are still working to schedule speakers for the Road show (May-Edinboro, June-North East, & July-Millcreek). Sean Calhoun offered to call Sen. Pat Toomey's office to connect Charlotte with HUD, after Charlotte said she was going to

get in touch with them. Lastly, Charlotte informed the board of Robert Curry's passing. Mr. Curry was a former member of the HRC.

**Public Comment:** Jason Brendel attended the meeting. Mr. Brendel would like to see a copy of the Fair Housing ordinance passed by the HRC. Mr. Brendel also brought a handout for Commissioners containing a Sexual Orientation Conversion Therapy ban ordinance that was passed in Erie County, New York. Mr. Brendel addressed the HRC in regards to what he believes is discrimination against him. He informed the HRC about his social exclusions. Amy Danzer clarified that the HRC ordinance has not passed County Council after Mr. Brendel wanted to include language pertaining to social exclusion. Bob Howden told Mr. Brendel that the language could not be included because the ordinance has already passed the HRC and is in the hands of County Council. Bob Howden and Joe Aguglia thanked Mr. Brendel for his contributions to the Public Comment portion of the meeting. Lastly, The Commissioners welcomed Hallie Hilinski to the Human relations Commission, after being appointed by Councilman Carl Anderson.

**Commissioners adjourned at 7:18pm.** Amy Danzer called for a motion to adjourn, Connie Manus seconded. The vote passed unanimously.