

## **Erie County Human Relations Commission (ECHRC) – Commissioners Meeting**

### **Minutes/Notes – July 28th 2020**

#### **Call to Order/Roll Call:**

The Meeting was called to Order by Commission chair Shawnta Pulliam-Brown via zoom at 6:13 PM.

Commission Members Present: Shawnta Pulliam-Brown (Chair) Mary Jo Campbell (V-Chair) Christine Mitchell (Sec.); Tracy Leet.

Commission Members Not Present: John Steiner, Mike Martin, Connie Manus, Willy McAdory.

ECHRC Staff Present: Tony Logue, Attorney Spry Attorney Sunwabe.

County Council Andre Horton, Ellen Schauerman

Erie County Doug Smith, Nicole Iman

City Council Kathy Schaaf

Advisory Board Diana Ames

**Guest/Public Comment(s):** Kathy Schaaf discussed the situation downtown and in Perry Square concerning the lack of porta potties or other restroom facilities. A water fountain is coming but we need some porta potties or facilities. Chair Pulliam Brown will bring the issue up to Erie Downtown and Advisory board member Ames volunteered to help since she as addressed a similar issue in the neighboring park.

#### **Chair Report / Commissioners Comment(s):**

The flyer is still in process with Advisory board members Sonya Byes and Freda Tepfer. Chair Pulliam Brown asked about the planned Erie reader advertisement. Director Logue indicates the ad has been running for a few months and they will send the commissioners a copy for review. The Erie Reader comes out every two weeks and the ad does indicate what we do as a HRC and we can change if needed. He believes it is a one year advertisement and will confirm.

The chair appreciated receiving the draft of the annual report. The commission and staff are to be the ones who review and confirm and she will schedule a special meeting to review and prepare the report.

#### **Approval of Commissioners Minutes / Notes:**

The Minutes of the May 26th Meeting approved by the Commissioners Motioned by Commissioners Campbell/Leet approved unanimously.

Minutes of June 18<sup>th</sup> special meeting proposed amendment by Chair Pulliam Brown to add the 2019 report being prepared in 2020 in addition to the 2020 report being prepared for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2021. Motioned by Commissioners Campbell/Leet approved unanimously.

Since commissioner Campbell had to leave tabling June 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes until a quorum.

Since the discussion on the meeting between Chairwoman Pulliam Brown and Director Logue were not in the May recording we are adding that discussion here. Chairwoman Pulliam Brown was not in favor of a private meeting.

She requested a public meeting and Director Logue indicated he was always willing to meet and work on the annual report.

**Director's Report:**

Director Logue.

We are holding steady with the same number of cases. Also there are several recent calls on many issues. Disruption to the office due to Cov19 we now have zoom and access to county council chambers to get fact findings and hearings scheduled and will move forward.

**Old Business:**

**New Business**

We discussed the scheduling of hearings. Attorney Spry asked for availability as county council chambers has some availability and Mr. Smith indicated he can check the jury room for additional availability. Attorney Spry to survey hearing committee Chair Pulliam Brown, Commissioners Campbell and Leet and alternates Commissioners Mitchell, Manus and Commissioner Martin not present tonight had previously volunteered also to fill the panels since we need to fill multiple panels.

**Adjournment:**

There was a motion to adjourn by commissioners Leet and Mitchell and the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.