

Erie County Human Relations Commission (ECHRC) – Commissioners Meeting

Notes– April 26th 2022

Call to Order/Roll Call:

The Meeting was called to Order by chair Mary Jo Campbell via zoom at 6:02 PM.

Commission Members Present: Chair Mary Jo Campbell, Secretary Christine Mitchell, Vice Chair Jeff Pinski, Marc Blount.

Commission Members Not Present: Kathryn DiVittorio, John Steiner, Dana Williams, Katrina Byrd.

ECHRC Staff Present: Wayne Harbison

Attorney Lanre Kukoyi

County Julie Slomski

County Council Ellen Schauerman

Guests [Lisa Tetuan](#)

Chair Report Chair Campbell addressed the ongoing discussions about the future of the HRC. Mr. Harbison has provided additional data. We need to contact our county council person to let them know what we are doing. We have vacancies. Our liaison is Ellen Schauerman who will join shortly. Chair Campbell had to leave and vice chair Pinski ran the rest of the meeting.

Minutes We will approve the minutes next time.

Review of decision L. Tetuan v. Whipple-Allen Attorney Kukoyi reviewed the decision from the hearing October 2021. The three member hearing panel concluded that the actions did not meet the criteria to find in favor of the plaintiff. Attorney Kukoyi concluded this is now settled and dismissed and the final notice will go out tomorrow to start the 30 day appeal period.

Public Comment Miss Teutuan thanked the panel for the time and attention hearing her case and asked about the appeal process.

Advisory Board Report The Advisory board is meeting every other month and working advertising and public service announcements and other items. Working with Erie and Millcreek school districts.

Director's Report: Wayne Harbison reported 4-5 new cases coming in that need final draft of the complaint. One case may be settled shortly. Some may be dismissed or heading to a public hearing in the next few months. Three ongoing older cases being worked. One case is at the EEOC. About 10 total cases. Mr. Harbison will be drafting the official closure letter with appeal process tomorrow. Mr. Harbison drafted volumes on all complaints referrals and all other contacts from the office.

Chair Report / Commissioners Comment(s): We will discuss the meeting future plans when Chair Campbell is present in May. We discussed the panel process per Commissioner Blount's comments. Attorney Kukoyi reviewed the process from the ordinance and process again and because the ordinance is silent on that the approval process goes to the panel recommendation is final.

Old Business: Statements of financial interests for commissioners due by May 1st please complete per Wayne's instructions and sent to the county clerk.

Mr. Harbison sent notifications of trainings from the EEOC.

New Business:

Next Commissioner meeting May 24th,

Adjournment: Adjourned by commissioners Pinski and Mitchell at 6:46 p.m.