

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

### Notes – March 22nd 2023

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

The Meeting was called to Order by chair Vice Chair Jeff Pinski via zoom at 6:03 PM.

Commission Members Present: Vice Chair Jeff Pinski, Secretary Christine Mitchell, Ken Brasington, Katrina Byrd

Commission Members Not Present: *Kathryn DiVittorio*, Dana Williams, Mary Jo Campbell.

County/Staff Julie Slomski, Kelly Ryan

Advisory Board Alex Sphon, Camille Crenshaw. John Groh, Laura Schaaf, Edison Nicholson, Kathy Schaaf

**Minutes.** No quorum on commission

**Chair Report/Commissioners Comments** Julie Slomski introduced our new executive director Kelly Ryan. We are all very excited to have Kelly onboard and area all looking forward to working with her. She wants to build the commission meeting us all and building a quorum. Director Ryan has about 24 conversations going on cases and is working on an electronic filing system.

**Director's Report:** Director Ryan is getting the office back up to speed and has been in the social services field for over 20 years. Director Ryan wants to develop expertise in law, she wants us to be a great knowledgeable resource and bring growth and become more proactive. She wants to build relationships in the community to ensure we are providing the best service.

**Old Business:** Ordinance review by director Ryan and the corrected bylaws have been passed. We will strongly encourage attendance for future meetings. We will have a case update for March. We will continue to pursue hiring for a number two position in the office.

**Advisory Board Elections** Kathy Schaaf nominated Alex Sphon for chair. Nominations closed by Kathy Schaaf/John Groh approved by acclamation. Alex Sphon/Edison Nicholson nominated Kathy Schaaf as vice chair. Alex Sphon/Camille Crenshaw closed nominations. Kathy Schaaf elected by acclamation. John Groh/Kathy Schaaf nominated Camille Crenshaw for secretary. Alex Sphon/John Groh closed nominations and Camille Crenshaw elected by acclamation.

**New Business:** Training opportunities. Director Ryan is pursuing historical and new options for training. We are looking at the state human relations commission and several others. Vice Chair Pinski and Edison Nicholson addressed potential return to in person meetings and more in person events. Vice Chair Pinski addressed the need for quorum so we can conduct business. Julie Slomski to address with council.

**Next Commissioner meeting April 26th.**

**Adjournment:** Adjourned at 6:44.