

**Erie County Human Relations Commission
Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday September 20, 2023**

Call to Order/Roll Call:

The Meeting was called to Order by chair Alex Sphon at 6:05 PM

Member Present: John Groh, Abdullah Washington, Alex Sphon, Edison Nicholson, Ellen Schauerman, Melissa Gibbons, Kelly Ryan

Minutes: No minutes at time.

Chair Report Alex Sphon: Presented the following information:

- Have potentially 3 vacancies coming up

Director's Report Kelly Ryan: Public. Presented the following information:

- In final process of onboarding new staff
- Excited about where we are heading
- Have served 8 separate cases
- Working on building electronic system
- 109 cases in intake
- New ordinance in relation to housing
- HRC being recognized at state level
- Spoke at State Capitol Building
- Asked that when we do come to start jotting down ideas and things we would like to see, and what specific agencies we would like to reach out

Old Business:

- Attended Community Law Day on 09/09/23 & The State of Fair Housing in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Speech in Harrisburg on 09/14/23.
- Discussion held about board goals for HRC regarding:
 - Immigration, refugees, and new Americans
 - Education services
 - Look into some education pieces to bring to January Meeting
 - Reach out to International Institute of Erie or MCRC
- PA Human Relations Commission offering some training.
 - Looking into opportunities to meet outside of meetings for training.
- Brochures now being held at ECAT

New Business:

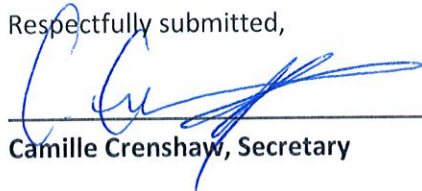
- October 28, 2023, Abdullah Washington will be honored at Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc Mu Nu Omega Chapter AKA Honors Pink Carpet Gala
- Scheduled and Upcoming Events
 - Millcreek Channel Interview on 10/27/23 at 11:30 am
- Pushing Diversity Panel to Winter/Spring 2023

- Return of the Employment Conference in 2024
- Housing Education Event in April 2024 for Fair Housing Month and Celebrate Diversity Month
- PHRC- Beloved Community Tour and Connections

Next meeting will be the joint meeting on November 15, 2023.

Adjournment: Adjourned at 7:15 PM by Chair Alex Sphon

Respectfully submitted,



Camille Crenshaw, Secretary