

Pottstown Human Relations Commission
General Meeting
July 11, 20017

Opening

Co-chair Levengood led the meeting as the temporary Chairperson as Commissioner Paez resigned in May.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence

Roll Call:

Commissioners present were:

Jonathan Corson

Ian Lawrence

Marcia Levengood

Luvenia Lister

Samantha Miller

Commissioner absent without excuse:

Robert (Bobby) Watson

Others present: Consultant Hicks and former Commissioner Paez

Training

Commissioner Lister began training at 6:04 PM and the General Meeting started at 6:18 PM. Commissioner Lister presented on Guidelines for Establishing a Human Relations Commission and Harassment.

Finance Report

- Consultant invoices for the past three months - see motion below
- Status of the office rent - still in for review

Borough Council information

Chairperson Levengood stated that Council President, Mr. Weand verbally authorized the Chairperson to report the Commission's' affairs to the Borough Manager (Mark Flanders).

Election of Officers

Chairperson Levengood will inquire on the protocol for filing for positions from Borough Manager Flanders.

Other discussion

- No hate here - blue and white signs are beginning to surface in residential neighborhoods and No Place for Hate and information is available at the YWCA.
- PA Bipartisan Clean Slate (SB 259) - Commissioner Corson stated that this is now a law.
- Montgomery County Advisory Council will visit the August meeting of the NAACP.
- Review of annual schedule - There will be a meeting on August 8.
- Working meeting - More discussion needed.

Motions made:

Motion to appoint Co Chair Levensgood as Chairperson was made by Commissioner Corson and seconded by Commissioner Lawrence. No questions - All in favor.

Motion to remove the background checks requirement as it demonstrates disparity treatment. Commissioner Corson motioned to approach Borough Council to remove background checks from the ordinance and was seconded by Commissioner Leister. No questions - All in favor

Motion to request a liaison from Borough Council to represent the and to have the chain of command defined; Motion was made by Commissioner Lawrence and Commissioner Corson seconded. No questions - All in favor.

Requested changes to the Ordinance:

1. Appoint a liaison officer from Borough Council
2. Remove background checks
3. Replace the word chairman to chairperson
4. Rewrite to reflect past practices of Commissioner vacancies
5. Clarify the chain of command

Motion that Consultant Hicks will develop a letter to Borough Council.

Commissioner Lawrence made the motion and Commissioner Corson seconded. No questions; all in favor.

Motion to pay the consultant's invoices for April, May, and June of \$1087.50.

Commissioner Lister made the motion and Commissioner Miller seconded. No questions; all in favor.

Motion to approval of minutes for June. Motion made to Commissioner Corson to approve the minutes for June and Commissioner Lister seconded. All were in favor; no questions.

Projects

- Reserve a table for National Night Out

August 1

Needed - Regional flyers, business cards

Contacts: Pastor Reggie Brooks is the lead

We will make the reservations for a table at Washington and Chestnut streets - Commissioner

Lister will check.

- Pet Fair 9/16 9 - 3 PM
- Latin Festival 9/23 12 - 5
- Safe House - YMCA
- Essay contest - Tabled due to lack of interest by school district
- PA Equity Inclusion Toolkit - Further discussion needed
- Review and update By-Laws
- Brochure and social media - in progress

Events

- Harris Family Ministry - July 22, 2017
- Feria Latina - July 22, 2017

Tabled

- Feedback of CCSPA - Tabled
- Roots of Justice - Tabled
- Community Panel - Tabled
- Telephone System - Still working?

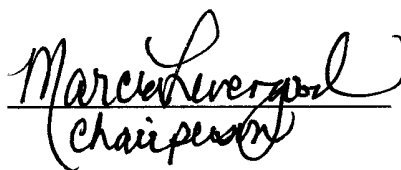
*Note: Commissioner Miller will be out next month

Adjournment

Meeting ended at 8:45 PM. Next meeting scheduled for August 8, 2017 at 6 PM.

Submitted by D. Hicks, Consult.

Minutes approved on August 8, 2017


(Chairperson)