



METROPOLITAN HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

October 5, 2020

4:30 PM

METRO CONFERENCE ROOM

2310 PARNELL AVENUE

FORT WAYNE, IN 46805

Teleconference: 260-427-8590 PIN: 322214

Meeting called by:

STATUTORY MONTHLY MEETING

Type of meeting:

FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH

Note taker:

LESLIE HERNANDEZ, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT IV

Metro

Commissioners:

Lana Keesling, Chair; Kody Tinnel, Vice Chair; Jesus Trevino; Dorian Maples; Larry Wardlaw; Aisha Arrington; and Tabitha Ervin.

Agenda

Call to Order

Roll Call of Commissioners

Reading of Minutes

Office Report

Old Business

New Business

Concerns/Comments from the Public

Adjournment

Call to Order and Roll Call at 4:32 p.m.

Commissioners Keesling, Tinnel, Trevino, Maples, Wardlaw, Arrington and Ervin present.

Other Persons

Present:

Nikki Quintana, Executive Director

Jenny Gosheff, Staff Attorney

- September 14th meeting minutes were read and approved.

OFFICE REPORT

EEOC

EMPLOYMENT CASE PROCESSING (10/1/19 – 9/30/20):

- **Intakes (by 9/30/20): 110 (contract number) 77(current status)**
- **Case Closures: 274 plus 10 PC (contract 265)**
- **Contract number of case closures by 9/30/20: 265**
 - 253 No Probable Cause
 - 10 Settlements
 - 5 Withdrawals
 - 5 Lack of Jurisdiction
 - 0 Right to Sue or Full Credit Transfer to the EEOC

HUD

HOUSING CASE PROCESSING (7/1/20 - 6/30/21):

10 Cases closed for contract

- 2 HUD Settlements
- 0 Lack of Jurisdiction/withdraw/admin
- 0 No reasonable
- 8 Reasonable cause
- 0 Conciliated Reasonable cause (\$)

17 Pending (Open being investigated)

ATTENDED EVENTS/OUTREACH:

September 1, 15, 22, and 29, 2020: Commission staff attended the Fair Housing Summit 2020 webinar series.

September 1 and 2, 2020: Senior Investigators Sorg and Woods, Staff Attorney Gosheff and Director Quintana attended EEOC – FEPA training Conference Webinar

September 8, 2020: Director Quintana sat on a panel on Systemic Racism at the University of Saint Francis

September 11 and 25, 2020: Director Quintana attended the Mayor’s Commission on Police Reform and Racial Justice meetings.

September 14, 2020: Admin Hernandez, Senior Investigator Woods, and Director Quintana hosted the Trauma of Racism Training with Janell and Aaron Lane of Courageous Living, LLC.

September 17, 2020: Director Quintana assisted Francisco Townsend of YMCA with Cultural Awareness Training during Welcoming Week.

September 21, 2020: Admin Huyghe and Director Quintana hosted the Trauma of Racism Training with Janell and Aaron Lane of Courageous Living, LLC.

September 24:2020: Director Quintana conducted Workplace Civility Training for Wayne Township employees.

September 30, 2020: Investigator Holifield conducted Ready to Rent: Fair Housing Training for the Fort Wayne Housing Authority. Investigators Myers and Nancarrow and Staff Attorney Gosheff attended the training.

PERSONNEL ISSUES:

None

BUDGET/CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Director Quintana reviewed budget and calendar for October and November. Admin Hernandez will give final budget numbers for contract year 2020 in our meeting next month.

LEGAL UPDATE/MATTERS:

- **Mediations:** There were no mediations. There were 2 conciliations and both conciliations were successful.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Fair Housing Event** – links to watch are online.
 - We will have data based on evaluations in November and final attendance numbers.
- **Trauma of Racism Training** – evaluations and attendance numbers reviewed.
- **Annual Staff Meeting and Team Building - October 13th**
 - Office will be closed half day. Motion to approve the office being closed half day – Commissioner Trevino. Second by Commissioner Keesling. Approved.
- **October**
 - National Disability Employment Awareness Month – we sponsored billboards and social media campaign.
 - National Domestic Violence Awareness Month – we are supporting the Silent Witness Display and have two silhouettes in our lobby.
- **United Front Initiative**
 - They’d like to have businesses attend these trainings monthly. There is 12 sessions total for this program, and they do have a cost. We’d like to partner with them as this goes along with our mission. They’re doing a social media blast and we’ll be sharing it on our Facebook page and post it on our website
 - Commissioner Wardlaw asked if this is part of Fort Wayne United. Director Quintana stated that it is under the Fort Wayne United umbrella.
 - Commissioner Ervin is part of Fort Wayne United and stated this is a great opportunity and it has been funded nationally. It’s a once in a lifetime deal and Fort Wayne is doing it.
 - Commissioner Wardlaw asked how businesses are being recruited for this program. Per Commissioner Ervin, some businesses were invited initially to the press conference or the table. There’s also a Get Involved tab on their website and they have also made an announcement on their Facebook. The announcement was also on the newspapers and the news.
- **Current Case Age: 183.59**

OLD BUSINESS:

None

CONCERNS FROM THE PUBLIC:

MEETING ADJOURNED at 4:56 pm