



Metropolitan Human Relations Commission

July Commission Meeting
July 1, 2024 | 12:00 PM
Metro Conference Room
2310 Parnell Avenue Fort Wayne, IN 46805

Meeting called by:

Statutory Monthly Meeting

Type of meeting:

Commission Meeting on the first Monday of each month.

Note taker:

Nikki Quintana, Executive Director

Metro Commissioners:

Aisha Arrington, Chair; Tabitha Ervin, Vice Chair; Dorian Maples; Lana Keesling; Larry Wardlaw; Dr. David Lombard; and Tony Burrus

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/Roll Call:

12:02 P.M.

Commissioners Present:

Arrington (in-person)
Ervin (in-person)
Wardlaw (in-person)
Burrus (in-person)
Lombard (in-person)
Maples (in-person)
Keesling (not present)

Other Persons Present:

Nikki Quintana, Executive Director
Lakisha Woods, Staff Attorney

- June 3rd meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

Office Report

EEOC

Employment Case Processing (10/1/23 – 9/30/24)

Intakes (by 9/30/24): 120 (contract number) 98 (current status)

Contract number of case closures by 9/30/24: 237

- 142 No Probable Cause Cases
- 16 Settlements (\$75,426.23)
- 6 Withdrawals
- 0 Lack of Jurisdiction
- 0 Right to Sue or Full Credit Transfer to the EEOC

HUD

Housing Case Processing (7/1/23 - 6/30/24):

54 Cases closed for Contract

- 11 HUD Settlement
- 1 Lack of Jurisdiction/Withdraw/Admin
- 38 No Reasonable Cause
- 1 Withdraw after Resolution
- 3 Reasonable Cause
- 0 Judicial Closures

26 Pending (Open being investigated)

Attended Events/Outreach:

June 4, 2024: Investigator Kelsaw attended the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana's fair housing basics training.

June 5, 2024: Investigators Kelsaw and Brake attended the Creating Cultural Aptitude with Burmese Families conducted by Amani Family Services.

June 5, 2024: Senior Investigator Sorg and Staff Attorney Woods hosted a Metro booth at the NIHRA: Workforce Readiness Fair

June 6, 2024: Director Quintana attended the Mayor's Commission on Domestic Violence, Rape, and Sexual Harassment monthly meeting.

June 7, 2024: Senior Investigator Sorg conducted anti-harassment training for Wayne Township per request.

June 11, 2024: Director Quintana and Investigator Guayamo conducted anti-harassment training per a settlement agreement and Investigator Eanes attended.

June 11, 2024: Staff attended Emergency Action Plan training conducted by Anthony DeVido with the Parks & Recreation Department

June 12, 2024: Investigator Guayamo attended the monthly Latinx Social Services meeting.

June 13, 2024: Director Quintana met with the Charlotte-Mecklenberg Community Relations Department to discuss the Equity for All Study and our Metro Process.

June 18, 2024: Director Quintana attended a training on How to Love Your Board.

June 18, 2024: Senior Investigator Sorg conducted new realtor fair housing training for Upstar Upstate Alliance of Realtors.

June 20, 2024: Investigator Kelsaw attended the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana's fair housing disability training.

June 24, 2024: Director Quintana attended the Welcoming Fort Wayne Plan Steering committee meeting.

June 24, 2024: Director Quintana conducted Metro Process training for CONNECT per request and Investigators Guayamo and Benson attended.

Personnel Issues:

Our new investigator is training and shadowing.

We currently have a vacant senior investigator position and Director Quintana will be looking into filling it after the EEOC contract ends later this year.

Budget/Calendar of Events:

Admin Hernandez reviewed the current budget status and went over calendar of events.

Commissioner Burrus asked if the City budget is due on July 15th.

Admin Hernandez confirmed and mentioned that the EEOC and HUD budgets are usually presented at the same time.

Director Quintana stated she will discuss the budgets during new business and that, due to meeting schedules, the budget will be finalized after today's meeting. It is expected to be presented in August, and if any changes occur, a special meeting will be arranged.

Commissioner Burrus noted that the Controller's office presents budgets to the City Council in September.

Legal Update/Matters:

Mediations: The Commission conducted two mediations for the month of May. One mediation was successful, and one mediation failed.

New Business:

- **2024 Budget Kickoff**

The budget will be presented to the Commission in August.

- **International Association of Human Rights Agencies Conference – St. Louis, MO**

- **Equity for All Presentation 2.0**

Director Quintana will be presenting the study again this year as a breakout session at the conference.

Commissioner Dr. Lombard asked if IAOHRA pays Director Quintana for the presentation.

Director Quintana responded that HUD actually gives Metro travel and training funds to use towards attending specific training and they have approved the use of those funds for this conference.

Current Case Age: 148.59

Commissioner Wardlaw complimented Commission Chair Arrington on a great job representing the Fort Wayne Urban League in the community.

Old Business:

Concerns From the Public:

Meeting Adjourned at 12:15 p.m.