

Allegheny County Human Relations Commission  
Minutes of January 6, 2021  
Date/Time: January 6, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.  
Location: Virtual Via Zoom

I. Call to order: 8:33 a.m.

Commission members present

Nicola Henry-Taylor  
Arthur Pang  
Betsy Magley  
Marlin Woods  
William Price

Staff members present

Jeremy Beaver, Employee Relations Coordinator  
Ellen Buannic, Employee Relations Coordinator  
Fran Liebenguth, Assistant County Solicitor

II. Guests: None Present

III. Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve was brought by Commissioner Woods. Commissioner Henry-Taylor seconded the motion.

IV. Chairperson Update: With the recent vacancy in the Chairperson position the Commission discussed making appointments to the position of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson. A motion was made by Commissioner Henry-Taylor to nominate Commissioner Price for the position of Chairperson, and Commissioner Woods as Vice Chairperson. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Price and carried unanimously.

The commission then began discussion regarding the arrangement of groups, as well as, the motions commissioner position. The commission decide that group 1 will comprise of Commissioner Magley and Chairperson Price, and group 2 will consist of Commissioner Woods and Henry Taylor. Commissioner Pang will serve as the Motion's Commissioner moving forward for the Commission. The Commission also discussed having a meeting with the County Executive's Office or providing and update on the state of affairs with the Commission.

V. Staff and Committee Reports:

Law Department: Ms. Liebenguth gave a case update on the case list sent out to the group. It was indicated that all the 2018 cases have been closed, but there are some outstanding cases to be dealt with from 2020. The Law Department and Human Resources are going to meet to discuss doing the investigations. Ms. Liebenguth also noted that there have been no new cases filed for 2021 at the time of this meeting.

Ms. Liebenguth spoke about the passing of the updated rules and regulations that County Council was reviewing. These changes have been passed and are available to be placed on the website. The Law Department is going to prepare a welcome packet for future Commissioners as new Commissioners are appointed.

Human Resources: Mr. Beaver disused the status of hiring and independent investigator for cases where Allegheny County is listed as the respondent. The appointment of Lisa Edmonds, as the Director of Diversity Inclusion was discussed and the possible transition to a new support staff in the future.

Committee Reports: No updates.

- VI. Community Events: The ACBA Annual Martin Luther King Prayer breakfast is set to be done virtually on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Commissioner Woods will be sending out information on his upcoming EMPOWER ME seminar on landlord tenant issues as well as unlawful evictions.
- VII. Announcements and Open Floor: None
- VIII. Adjournment: A motion was made by Commissioner Pang to adjourn at 9:40 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Woods and carried unanimously.