

Allegheny County Human Relations Commission

Minutes of January 5, 2022

Date/Time: January 5, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

Location: Virtual Via Zoom

I. Call to order: 8:37 a.m.

Commission members present
William Price, Chairperson
Betsy Magley
Arthur Pang

Staff members present
Ellen Buannic, Employee Relations Coordinator

Staff members not present
Frances Liebenguth, Assistant County Solicitor

Guests: Brittany Mellinger, Education and Outreach Coordinator for PHRC

II. Approval of Minutes: Chairperson Price asked that approval of minutes be pushed to next month.

III. Guests: Brittany Mellinger from the PA Human Relations Commission introduced herself as an Outreach Coordinator for the Commission, specifically the fair housing division. Ms. Mellinger offered the Commission any support that might be needed. Chairperson Price expressed his appreciation for her attendance at the meetings and expressed the Commission's continued commitment to collaborating with her and other bodies to include best practices. Chairperson Price noted that several local municipalities have passed ordinances or introduced legislation for the creation of Human Relations Commissions. Some of those bodies, which differ a little in their missions, have reached out to the County Commission for support and Ms. Mellinger might be of assistance with those requests.

IV. Chairperson Update: Chairperson Price recognized former Commissioner Nicola Henry-Taylor's as she has been sworn in as a Jurist in the Court of Common Pleas. The Chairperson provided Ms. Mellinger an overview of the Commission's mission to include Diversity Awards with local high schools and the Mock Trial program that was sidelined by COVID-19.

The Chairperson also mentioned the need to discuss leadership roles of the members, due to his challenging other commitments.

V. Staff and Committee Reports: None

VI. Law Department: No update

Human Resources: Ms. Buannic gathered information needed for an update and communicated that to her Department Leadership.

VII. Community Events: MLK Prayer Breakfast will be held on Monday, January 17, 2022. Kelly Strayhorn Theater holds an event in the afternoon for children to include activities and education.

VIII. Announcements and Open Floor: All members congratulated the members and support staff leaving the Commission.

IX. Adjournment: Commissioner Pang made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 a.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Magley and carried unanimously.