

Minutes
September 20, 2023

Commissioner Present:

Lisa Blount
Kathryn Cobb-Holmes
Valerie Phelps Robinson
Richard Wagner

Commissioner(s) Absent:

N/A

Staff:

Kimberly Talbot

Guest:

None

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Cobb-Holmes at 6:05 p.m. The minutes from May & June were reviewed. Commissioner Wagner moved to accept the minutes and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Blount. The minutes were approved.

Executive Director's Report

The E.D. was able to conduct interviews for the open positions in July. Candidates were offered the positions. We hope to bring them on board in October or November.

Councilwoman Ventura requested an update about the HRC rental assistance and other various programs. The meeting took place on September 5th.

The HRC & MidPenn partnered to submit a grant proposal to the Wyomissing Foundation. The grant request was funded at the full amount of 150K. Penn State Berks will be a part of the project by collecting data. Tenants involved in the program must attend budgeting classes and provide some funds of their own. BCAP, members first credit union are our additional community partners.

The HRC will partner with BCTV to make a commercial as well as mini vignettes regarding the various protected classes and or new EEOC laws. We want to raise the office visibility.

The office reviewed and transferred 4 EEOC cases.

The summer Youth employment program ended with a ceremony on August 16th.

One intern thru the CareerLink program will finish on September 29th.

The E.D. attended an EEOC regional conference training in Baltimore Maryland from 7/24 – 7/28.

Old Business

Commissioner Phelps Robinson needs her interview done by council. The E.D. will discuss this issue with Linda Kelleher, City Clerk.

New Business

A new Commissioner will be joining us in October.

Commissioners were informed about the city's 275th anniversary events.

Good & Welfare

Commissioner Wagner reports the following:

-Reading Pride is participating in a fundraiser on October 18th, Boscov's Friends and Family.

Training:

There are no scheduled trainings.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.