

Human Relations Commission
Meeting #2022-05
May 23, 2022 - 5 p.m.

The monthly meeting of the Human Relations Commission (HRC) was held via hybrid mode on Monday, May 23, 2022 at 5 p.m.

Chair Williams Hightower welcomed everyone to the meeting. In attendance were Chair Faith Williams Hightower, Mr. Larry Maltin, Ms. Alyssa Carpenter, and Ms. Nicola Serianni. Member Mr. Steven Odhiambo was absent. Also in attendance were Supervisors Jeffrey Campolongo and Scott Badami along with Township Manager Roman Pronczak and Assistant Township Manager David Mrochko. There was one member of the public in attendance.

Chair Williams Hightower called for a motion to approve the minutes of April 25th. Mr. Maltin noted that a correction needs to be made in the second paragraph, changing the \$900 rate for training with Good Shepard to per session, instead of per person. A motion was made by Mr. Maltin, duly seconded by Ms. Carpenter to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2022 meeting with the correction as noted. With no additional questions or comments, Chair Williams Hightower called a roll-call vote and the motion carried.

Chair Williams Hightower began with old business, starting with Mr. Maltin who discussed mediation workshops. After consulting with the members, he suggested the first three-hour mediation workshop, An Introduction to Mediation. It would be three hours in the evening during the week virtually. The members will decide the date/time and schedule the training.

Mr. Maltin continued with an update on outreach. He proposes a postcard instead of a letter to businesses and will use a business listing provided by the Township. The documents subcommittee will prepare the postcard for approval.

Mr. Maltin then gave an update on the Tri-States HRC meeting scheduled for June 1st. Mr. Goldner, head of the Lower Merion HRC will also be running the Tri-States HRC meetings beginning June 1 for a period of time. The agenda includes discussion of issues HRCs face and services they provide. The meeting will provide an opportunity to learn from other HRCs who have been established longer. There will also be discussions of webinars, training and events that the others might offer. The meetings are informative.

Chair Williams Hightower asked if Messrs. Badami and Odhiambo met to discuss the website. Mr. Badami said they did and talked about what still has to be done. Mr. Odhiambo is putting something together before they meet again to present it to the entire HRC.

Chair Williams Hightower noted that a presentation was made to the Board of Supervisors, and they were impressed with the progress made by the HRC to date.

In new business, Chair Williams Hightower presented the option of moving to quarterly meetings, with monthly subcommittee meetings among the members. The HRC will meet in June, with its next meeting in September.

A motion was made by Mr. Maltin, seconded by Ms. Carpenter to move to quarterly public meetings after the June 2022 meeting, with subcommittee members meeting in non-public private session as required in the interim. Chair Williams Hightower called for discussion. Mr. Mrochko explained that the entire HRC cannot hold private sessions; only two members can have a discussion. Mr. Pronczak confirmed that no more than two members should meet to avoid the potential of actual or perceived impropriety. Mr. Maltin restated the motion to move the meetings to quarterly sessions beginning June 27th, seconded by Ms. Carpenter. A roll-call vote was taken, and the motion carried.

Chair Williams Hightower called for any closing comments by the members or visitors. There were none. Chair Williams Hightower asked if any members of the public have any comments. There were none.

Upon motion by Mr. Maltin, duly seconded by Ms. Serianni, the meeting was adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Larry Maltin
Secretary