

**MEETING MINUTES FOR
MICHIGAN CITY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

February 1, 2022

PRESENT: Soljourna Atwater Bunny Dimke Judy Lange
Dennis Carroll Diana Gore Nancy Moldenhauer
Marty Corley Melody Haynes Tyra Robinson-Walker

ABSENT: Albertine Allen Aaron O'Reilly Mary Ellen Quinn

OTHERS Ta-Tanisha George Larry Arness Don Przybylinski
PRESENT: Pat Harris ALCO

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Nancy Moldenhauer

ROLL CALL: Roll call was conducted. Attendance recorded above.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve minutes for January 2022 was entered by Judy Lange and properly second by Bunny Dimke. Motion carried. Vote: 7 Yea -- 1 Abstain

FINANCE REPORT

It was reported that there was no change in the financial report. The current balance was reported as \$1,455.29. A motion to approve the financial report as presented was entered by Bunny Dimke and second by Dennis Carroll. Motion carried. Vote 9-0

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mrs. George reported that there is one (1) active case. She gave a recap of 2021 activity as follows:
4 - Cases to ICRC 18 Cases to EEOC 2 Cases to HUD
13 Cases to Legal Services 12 Cases to Other Agencies (Dept. of Labor, BBB, etc.)
Total of 747 Contacts (includes office visits and telephone calls)

There is one (1) case for probable cause review. She is also finalizing another case that will be ready for review during the current week.

Mrs. George gave a heads up to commissioners on the upcoming deadline for scholarships. She recommended reviewing the deadline due to COVID. She will forward information in the next two weeks. She suggested scheduling a meeting to discuss further. Marty Corley stated that he would reach out to Mrs. George to the process moving. Nancy Moldenhauer agreed.

STAFF ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Attorney Arness informed commissioners that City Council held a workshop on January 26, 2022, covering the Open Door policy. He was very impressed with the information shared and encouraged all members to review the recording of the Workshop. One point he reiterated was that all zoom meetings must vote by the roll call process and that all motions must be recorded verbatim.

Nancy Moldenhauer briefly discussed the issue of a quorum in meetings outside of the regular monthly meeting. She expressed concern that a quorum in any such meeting constitutes a formal meeting and the members should be aware of this and not discuss any HRC business in this situation. Larry Arness confirmed the policy and gave the example of the probable cause meetings.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Nancy Moldenhauer asked Mrs. George to schedule a meeting in February or March to review board committee structure.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - Continue

SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE: No Report

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE No Report

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Judy Lange announced a Give Back at Galveston's will be held on March 31, 2022. She also spoke to Leed Public House about their "Beverage of the Month" fundraiser. Mrs. George will create a flyer for the events. Aaron O'Reilly has a \$700 check from the previous "Sip & Paint".

Nancy Moldenhauer thanked the committee again for the great work in 2021 and the high level of activity.

SSAAM Dennis Carroll will have a report in March.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE No Report

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE: No Report

MLK COMMITTEE: Nancy Moldenhauer congratulated Commissioner Robinson-Walker on a great 2022 program and outstanding speakers. Mrs. Robinson-Walker sated that the program will be shown through October. Commissioner Moldenhauer emphasized the weaknesses of the re-entry program as it pertains to African Americans.

LAPORTE COUNTY PFLAG No Report

TENANT/LANDLORD Mrs. George will complete the production of brochures in February for volumes 1 & 2. She will include main issues and address My Case. Larry Arness suggested that the brochure be sent to city legal for review prior to printing and distribution. Mrs. George stated that she will send it to Larry Arness and the city attorney. Members submitted names of the entities that should be included in the distribution list for the brochure. Mrs. George ensured members that all the mentioned parties will get copies of the brochure.

OLD BUSINESS

Black History Month Contest – Cheryl Chapman and Carness Carnes filmed a short video introducing Naomi Anderson. Ms. Chapman, an author, read a bio of Ms. Anderson Ms. Carness, a poetess, recited quotes from Ms. Anderson. The video was filmed at the LaPorte County convention & Visitors Bureau.

High School students will be asked to submit a 2-minute video (tik-tok style). The Celebrating Naomi Anderson Committee is also purchasing gift certificates for the contest. Mrs. George will send copies of the drafted flyers to all members for review.

NEW BUSINESS None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURN:

Motion: Dennis Carroll
Second: Judy Lange
Vote: 9-0 - The meeting concluded at 5:23 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

March 1, 2022, 4:30 p.m. – City Hall

***Respectfully Submitted
Ta-Tanisha George, Executive Director***