

Memo

To: Russ Boggs, Gretchen Little, Josh Grubbs, Kia Hansard, Amanda Arbour, Amanda Carter, Valerie Carelock, Christi'an Yellowdy, Theo Braddy

From: Shaashawn S. Dial, Director Social Equity & Affirmative Action (staff liaison to the HHRC)

cc: None

Date: September 23, 2018 (Approved)

Re: September 10, 2018 Harrisburg Human Relations Commission (HHRC) Meeting Minutes (Approved)



CITY OF HARRISBURG DEPARTMENT of ADMINISTRATION

BUREAU of SOCIAL EQUITY & AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

Harrisburg Human Relations Commission (HHRC) September 10, 2018 Meeting Minutes (meeting #10)

Physical Meeting held in Harrisburg Parking Authority (HPA) Board Room, 3rd floor, McCormick Public Safety Building. The HHRC meeting was moved from the EOC for the September meeting for Planning/Zoning to have their Architectural Review Board Meeting in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), room number 213, of the Public Safety Building.

In attendance: Commissioner Arbour (AA), Commissioner Boggs (RB)/Chair, Commissioner Carelock (VC), Commissioner Amanda Carter (AC), Commissioner Gretchen Little (GL)/ Vice Chair, Commissioner Braddy (TB), Commissioner Josh Grubbs (JG), Commissioner Hansard (KH), Commissioner Christian Yellowdy (CY), & Shaashawn Dial (Staff Liaison).

Absent: No one

Meeting called to order 5:52 pm by RB, Chair. Meeting started late because Staff Liaison made multiple trips to meet and escort Commissioners through secure police area to HPA Boardroom.

Staff Liaison conducted alphabetical order roll call of Commissioners.

There was one Commissioner BORN day recognized for month of September: Commissioner Russ Boggs, Chair. Blessed early BORN day, Mr. Chairman - born day is September 19th.

Chair Boggs opened the floor for public comment. No individuals from the public were present. No individuals signed the public comment sign-in sheet.

There was not a HHRC Commissioner or Community Guest Facilitator at the August 2018 meeting.

The guest facilitator for the September meeting was Eric Gutshall, Secretary, Intergovernmental Affairs, Office of the Governor Tom Wolf. The Office of Intergovernmental Affairs directly connects the Office of the Governor and state agencies to citizens, constituency groups, associations, local governments, and others in efforts to listen, learn, and address matters, and assist in creating a government that works for the people of Pennsylvania and its diverse regions and communities. The office consists of multiple streamlined and coordinated segments: Boards and Commissions, Constituent Services, External Affairs, and the Regional Offices (<https://www.governor.pa.gov/intergovernmental-affairs/>).

Mr. Gutshall shared the department receives and processes approximately 50,000 calls per year, solving constituent's problems. In addition, under Boards and Commissions are the affinity commissions, each created by a different executive order. The commissions hold townhall meetings, educational events, and perform advocacy. The first was created by a previous Governor's administration and Governor Wolf has re-newed the Commissions via Executive Order and plans to expand the number of commissioners serving on those commissions. Specifically, the newly created (August 6, 2018) Commission on LGBTQ Affairs will take an intersectional lens, absorbing the LGBTQ work group from 2016 who was successful in increasing funding for HIV, increasing education and advocacy to LGBTQ communities on smoking cessation, and advocating for changes with birth certificates; they continue working across the state on policy. The LGBTQ Commission will have quarterly in-person meetings, each held in a different part of the state, with subcommittees executing work in-between the in-person meetings. Mr. Gutshall expressed his commitment to exploring partnership opportunities, increasing dialogue among all stakeholders, supporting events planned and executed by the Commission(s) and exchanging ideas for collaboration. Mr. Gutshall also spoke highly of the work of Chad Dion Lassiter, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission. Mr. Gutshall spoke about the Governor's Commission on Latino Affairs, specifically a trip to Puerto Rico with Luz Colon, Executive Director of the Latino Chamber, Governor, and himself to assess recovery efforts. They are working on communication between Puerto Rico and Pennsylvania with regards to recognition of professional licenses and professional certifications.

At the end of Mr. Gutshall's remarks, he invited dialogue from the HHRC Commissioners. The HHRC Commissioners went around the table and introduced themselves. Commissioner Braddy asked two questions: (1) The Commission on LGBTQ Affairs is the largest of the commissions with 40. Can you share a bit about the decision to make it so large? (2) Are there any Commissioners on the LGTQ Commission who identify as a Transgender Person with Disabilities? Commissioner Yellowdy asked: How many of the 40 Commissioners are people of color? Chair Boggs asked two questions: (1) If the Commissions are created by Governor

Executive Order, can a new Governor / administration choose not to re-new a Commission and hence end it? (2) How are the Commissions funded? Commissioner Arbour asked, How Trans Womyn of Color voices' will be centered in the work of the LGBTQ Commission? Commissioner Hansard asked: What does the Department of Intergovernmental Affairs for residents who specifically are experiencing challenges with navigating Health & Human Services Department? Commissioner Carter asked about opportunities for youth to be involved with the department and administration? Commissioner Carelock affirmed the work of Mr. Gutshall, Executive Director Colon, and the Governor on their efforts to work with Puerto Rico. Mr. Gutshall expressed his vision to see the affinity commissions grow to host state wide conferences.

Mr. Gutshall's contact information is:

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Staff Liaison presented each Commissioner with a 3-page document containing a copy of the Executive Order creating the Commission on LGBTQ Affairs, bio of the Executive Director, and list of Commissioners.

Commissioners reviewed and approved minutes from August 15, 2018 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Staff Liaison requested for Law Bureau to attend October 2018 HHRC meeting. A representative from the Law Bureau will be at the October meeting, please bring questions/concerns. The Law Bureau was provided with a copy of the process map and general information 1 sheet(er). There was some discussion among Commissioners with the most important points: (1) The HHRC needs to retain an attorney with credentials / specialty with civil rights and discrimination and (2) HHRC wants to maintain the ability to provide a fast resolution.

NEW BUSINESS

Staff Liaison Dial shared, under legislative efforts, a positive trend that local municipalities are passing Conversion Therapy Ban Legislation, like the positive trend of local municipalities passing anti-discrimination ordinances since such protections do not exist at the state level. There was some discussion. Commissioner Arbour volunteered to obtain information and language from her contact in Allentown who recently passed legislation.

Commissioner Arbour and Chair Boggs shared, under policy efforts, there was no update nor movement on PA House Bill 861.

Commissioner Arbour, under advocacy efforts, provided a summary of the roll out of the 2018 LGBT Health Needs Assessment – Southcentral PA Stakeholder meeting held at the LGBT Center on August 28, 2018. Specifically, Commissioner Arbour shared that Dave Madsen, City Councilman, asked how he and City Council could help provide solutions to the LGBTQ+ communities' health disparities.

Staff Liaison Dial provided a Staff Liaison Report. She distributed HHRC Business Cards and HHRC Brochures to Commissioners absent at the July or August meeting. The HHRC continues to wait for the published official score of the HRC MEI. Two goals for: 2019 by the HHRC for the HRC MEI is to: (1) create and fill a LGBTQ Police Liaison or Task Force to LGBTQ communities and (2) create and fill a LGBTQ Community Liaison to Senior leadership within the administration. Staff Liaison Dial distributed CAS (City Art Space) writing pens for Commissioners who missed the July meeting when they were originally distributed and distributed two thank you notes for signing by the Commissioners for Harrisburg Parking Authority and Eric Gutshall. Staff Liaison Dial shared her engagement efforts by attending the movie screening and talk back of The Rape of Recy Taylor (8.9.2018), an event put together by many womyn focused organizations, State Representative Patty Kim's Job Fair (9.8.2018), and Bro 2 Go one-year anniversary mixer (9.8.2018).

Discrimination Inquiries: 6 (since August 15, 2018):

- 1, via email, ongoing issue with my current apartment building
- 1*, via cc line of an email sent to Executive Director TS of Governor's Commission on LGBTQ Affairs from Chambersburg, PA, transwomyn and employment, ED answered
- 1, employment, submitted on-line form, 1 face to face mtg in MLK building, Staff Liaison currently reviewing paperwork
- 1, (technically 8/3/2018 on line), retail, following-up in progress...
- 1, housing, (technically 8.16.2018,) following-up in progress...
- 1, employment, from an attorney, following-up in progress...
- Total Inquiries to date: 28

Commissioner /Chair Boggs discussed commissioner terms and the fact that three Commissioners who were appointed to one-year terms; their terms officially expire November 14, 2018. Discussion regarding reappointment and/ or appointing new individuals followed. Research will be conducted by Chair Boggs and Staff Liaison Dial.

Under community engagement and education events, Commissioner Braddy provided a summary of the successful ADA Photo Shoot event Thursday, August 9, 2018, from 10am to 2pm at the City Island Pavilion in celebration of the 28th anniversary of the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The event obtained media coverage from three different television outlets. Staff Liaison Dial highlighted and thanked Commissioner Yellowdy, on behalf

of Megan Roby, Director of Special Events and Courtney Ranck-Cameron, Events Assistant, for her volunteer efforts to work the Mayor's Tent at the Kipona Festival from open (11am) to close (8pm) Saturday, September 1, 2018 and Sunday, September 2, 2018.

Commissioner announcements / community events shared were:

- September 19th, Community Forum Voter Engagement Event
- September 21, 2018 3rd in the 'Burg
- September 21 and 22nd Harrisburg University Esports (HUE) Festival
- October 6th LGBT Center of Central PA - FAB @ Lancaster Marriott
- King Center Flyer w/ 2 events
- October 27, 2018 World Affairs Council International Artist Expo & Temple University Harrisburg

At 7:27pm Commissioner/ Chair Boggs asked Staff Liaison to leave the room and entered Executive Session on a personnel matter.

Meeting adjourned: 7:43 pm