



CITY OF HARRISBURG DEPARTMENT of ADMINISTRATION  
BUREAU of SOCIAL EQUITY & AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

CITY OF HARRISBURG HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY AUGUST 15, 2018 (Final)

by Gretchen Little, Vice Chair

Meeting called to order by Russ Boggs at 5:48 p.m.

PRESENT: Commissioners Amanda Arbour, Russ Boggs, Amanda Carter, Kia Hansard, Gretchen Little

No Commissioner Facilitation was scheduled – there was only comment to the extent that Mr. Charles White’s facilitation at the last meeting was extremely helpful and interesting.

AA moved, KH 2nded to adopt last meeting’s minutes – the minutes were approved without additions or corrections.

Shaashawn Dial was absent because of surgery, but previously had provided an agenda and a report of her efforts to continue to move the amended Anti-Discrimination Ordinance for eventual ratification.

AA noted a potential issue with the requested definitions of “Sex” and “Sexual Orientation”, and suggested including other orientations rather than those suggested in Xavier Persad’s recommendations. With respect to the definition of “Sexual Orientation,” the commissioners agreed to provide alternative definitions and submit them for discussion/confirmation by the entire commission.

In reviewing the listing of complaints received by Shaashawn, RB suggested that a member of the Law Bureau attend the next meeting and provide procedural guidelines for Commission hearings, in advance of the first scheduled hearing date.

KH noted that the need for the commission to have legal counsel present before acting on any specific cases, and the need for counsel to be independent of the City. KH noted that previous commission budgets might reflect the cost of retaining counsel.

RB noted that in the next term (2019) it may be beneficial to secure one day for Commission meetings, rather than alternating between Wednesdays and Mondays.

KH announced an upcoming right-to-know law meeting at the CareerLink building, where an employee of the PA Office of Open Records will be presenting Tuesday August 21<sup>st</sup> at 6pm. KH also noted a Suicide Prevention Meeting at the CareerLink Building on September 5<sup>th</sup>, also at 6p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.