

**Lower Merion Township
Human Relations Commission
March 7, 2019 – 7:10 PM
Minutes**

In attendance: Human Relations Commissioners (HRC): Chair Harold Goldner, Esq., Vice Chair Felice Tilin Ph.D., Ilene Wasserman, Ph.D., , Judith Meyer, Esq., (via phone), Richard Bayer, Ph.D.

Absent: Benjamin Garber, Esq., Secretary James A. Pollard, Jr., Marifa Winfree (Alternate), Gina Lee (Alternate)

Board of Commissioners (BOC): None

Staff: Gina Pellicciotta, Human Resources Associate

Member(s) of the Public: Karen Barton

Approval of Minutes – HRC Goldner motioned for approval. Guest Barton asked if Villanova could be included in the Community & Education/Media Outreach to the May 2019 meeting as suggested at the January meeting. Chairman Goldner apologized for them being left off the minutes. The **January 10, 2019** minutes were unanimously approved.

Dates for the next meeting – HRC Goldner noted that he was still waiting for a few of the members to give their availability to the dates given. He will send an email out to all members to get their input.

Action Items reported as outlined below:

- ***Chair Report:*** HRC Goldner spoke to the confidential memo received from DVHT. He stated that he couldn't share it but that he did speak to Solicitor High and they agreed that there should be no change to the ordinance as it was adopted.

Action item – HRC Goldner spoke to part of the confidential memo and how the HRC ordinance was adopted:

- All Parties have recourse to court
- The Ordinance was drafted with consistent case law
- Not to worry about the Township being sued

HRC Goldner motioned to adopt the resolution, seconded by HRC Wasserman with all voting aye. Motion was adopted unanimously.

RESOLVED, The Township of Lower Merion Human Relations Commissions confirms its obligation and intention to investigate, and if necessary and appropriate and consistent with its regulations as enacted by the Board of Commissioners, adjudicate only those matters which fall under the provision of its ordinance for which there are not adequate remedies at law under state and/or federal law.

ADOPTED this 7th day of March 2019

- HRC Goldner reported that he testified on Monday at the House Democratic Policy Commission and was asked to participate in recommending changes to the PA HRC. Some of the recommendations were:
 - Provide for jury trials

- PHRA punitive damages
 - Must offer protection for the LBGTQ community
 - Expanding whistleblower act
 - File be available before suit
- **Brochure Revision Sub-Committee:** No report. HRC Wasserman asked for 20 copies of the brochure. HRA Pellicciotta said that HR would get them to her.
 - **Workshare Agreement:** No report.
 - **Mediation Sub-Committee:** No report.
 - **Community & Education /Media Outreach Sub-Committee:** HRC Goldner reported that he met with Mark Murray, LMTV, regarding doing a monthly program and to have each member appear on the show and to interview various individuals. HRC Wasserman said she would like to interview Emil Sadloch.

HRC Goldner reported that he will be attending an informal meeting of HRC members on May 1, 2019 at 9 a.m. at the PHRC.

- **Tri-State Human Relations Coalition:** No Report
- **Technology and Website:** No report.
- **Old Business:** Guest Barton and HRC Meyer did not hear back from Ben Hughes, Haverford College as discussed at the January meeting. Guest Barton also questioned if the next meeting would be to hear from the individuals' presentations or if there would be a meeting first and then presentations from the guests. It was also suggested for the HRC to read the book recommended by HRC Wasserman – "This is How it Always Is."
- **New Business:** No report.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted Gina Pellicciotta, Human Resources Associate