MINUTES

SUSQUEHANNA TOWNSHIP HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

REORGANIZATION MEETING APRIL 19, 2022

CALL TO ORDER:

Manager David Pribulka called the meeting of the Susquehanna Township Human Relations Commission to order on Tuesday, April 19, 2022, at 6:30 P.M. at the Thomas W. Holtzman Elementary School located at 1910 Linglestown Road, Harrisburg, PA 17110

ROLL CALL:

Jeff Champagne
Raymond Landis
Stanley Lawson - Absent
Amy Putnam
Mary Nancarrow
Dr. Judith Samkoff

TOWNSHIP PERSONNEL:

David Pribulka, Township Manager Kathy Fry, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Carl Hisiro, Liaison to Board of Commissioners, Daneisha Dunbar-Yancey, Jody Rebarchak and Joe Rebarchak

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

Manager Pribulka thanked the Board members for their willingness to serve and to meet in person. He then introduced himself and asked that each person in attendance do the same. He also noted that Daneisha Dunbar-Yancey is up for appointment to this Board by the Board of Commissioners at their meeting on April 28, 2022.

REORGANIZATION:

Manager Pribulka explained the roles of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary. He then opened the floor for nomination(s) for Chairperson.

Jeffrey Champagne nominated Raymond Landis. There were no other nominations, and the vote was unanimous.

Manager Pribulka then turned the meeting over to Chairman Landis who thanked everyone for their confidence in him and for their support.

Chairman Landis asked for nomination(s) for Vice Chairperson. Mary Nancarrow nominated herself to be Vice Chairperson. There were no other nominations, and the vote was unanimous.

Chairman Landis then asked for nominations for Secretary. Amy Putnam nominated herself. There were no other nominations, and the vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Vice Chairperson Nancarrow made a motion to approve the January 15, 2020, Reorganizational Meeting Minutes with corrections; seconded by Secretary Putnam and unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

REVIEW OF DISCRIMINATION ORDINANCE AND HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION RESPONSIBILITIES

The Commission members were provided with the Susquehanna Township Discrimination Ordinance and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act. Manager Pribulka gave a brief outline of the sections of this Ordinance that provides for equal employment, housing, the use of public accommodations and provisions that are not covered under the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act of Oct. 27, 1955, P.L. 744, No. 222.

Manager Pribulka explained that if a complaint is received by the Township, he would be the first line of contact. He would then notify the Chairman if the complaint fell under the jurisdiction of the HRC. If the case should proceed to mediation, it would be better to have a person who is not a member of the HRC as the mediator. This will help to avoid conflict and having the HRC member excusing themselves from any voting on the final decision. It was suggested that the Township Manager could be appointed as the mediator if necessary.

Vice Chairperson Nancarrow, who is a trained mediator, offered to do the mediator training is if should become necessary.

CITIZEN AND COMMISSIONER COMMENT:

Jody Rebarchak, Township Commissioner, Ward 1, welcomed the new and returning members of the HRC. She stated that advocacy was done in the past and a table was sponsored at the Pride Festival in Harrisburg. Vice Chairperson Nancarrow stated that the festival is scheduled for the last Saturday in July and will be held between the State Museum and the Archive Building.

Chairman Landis asked if monthly or quarterly meetings should be held. Manager Pribulka suggested that the next meeting be held on Wednesday, June 15, 2022, at 6:30 discuss more about the Pride Festival.

ADJOURNMENT:

Secretary Putnam moved to adjourn the Human Relations Committee meeting at 7:37 P.M.; seconded by Dr. Samkoff.

Respectfully Submitted,

Army Pulliam

Secretary to the Commission