

**PENNSYLVANIA HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
MINUTES OF PUBLIC COMMISSION MEETING
FEBRUARY 28, 2022**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting convened virtually at 2:05 PM, on Monday, February 28, 2022.

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners:

Joel Bolstein, Chair
Dr. Raquel O. Yiengst, Vice Chair
Mayur Patel, Secretary (absent)
Rad Agrawal
Michael Hardiman
Curtis Jones (absent)
Adrian Shanker
Aleena Sorathia

Staff:

Chad Dion Lassiter, Executive Director
Samuel Rivera, Chief Counsel
Lisa Knight, Commission Counsel
Carl Summerson, Hearing Examiner
Guerline Laurore, Esq., Director of Policy & Intergovernmental Affairs
Adrian Garcia, Director of Fair Housing and Commercial Property
Kurt Jung, Director of Enforcement (absent)
Laura Argenbright, Director of Communications
Lyle Wood, Pittsburgh Regional Office Director
Heather Roth, Harrisburg Regional Office Director
Robert Lindsey, Philadelphia Regional Office Director
Debbie Walters, Administrative Officer
Anja Mijocevic, Special Assistant to Executive Director

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bolstein called the meeting to order. The meeting had been advertised and was open to the public, in accordance with the provisions of the Sunshine Act. Prior to the meeting, in keeping with the confidentiality requirements of the Sunshine Act; there had been a closed session to discuss compliance matters.

Attendance was taken and a quorum was noted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION:

Commissioner Yiengst made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Agrawal to approve the minutes of the January Public Meeting. Commissioner Hardiman abstained; however, with the remaining commissioners in favor, motion carried.

ADJUDICATION

Case #	Case Name
201903631	1. Hill Vs. 3844 Germantown Avenue, LLC
201803286	2. Suriel Vs. Split Rock Resort
201703203	3. Blood Vs. William Wheeler

Hearing Examiner Summerson presented to the commissioner the above cases. Each commissioner voting signified by their vote that they have reviewed the record in these matters to determine whether the recommended findings are supported by substantial evidence. Furthermore, because it is for the commission, as the adjudicative body to determine whether the respondent has engaged in or is engaging in an unlawful discriminatory practice as defined by the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, any findings, conclusions, and order approved today are so approved only after the commission itself has determined that the evidence upon which it is based has been resolved correctly; and that any credibility determinations have been decided correctly.

MOTION 1:

Commissioner Agrawal made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hardiman to approve the Recommendation to find for charging party. With all in favor, motion carried.

MOTION 2:

Commissioner Yiengst made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sorathia to approve the Recommendation to find for charging party. With all in favor, motion carried.

The Blood Vs. William Wheeler case was tabled by the Commission for further review.

LGBT Regulatory Package:

Chief Counsel Rivera presented to the Commission the finalized Package to be provided to the Legislative Review Board and posted for comments. Chief Counsel Rivera also added that on January 24, 2022, during the previous monthly meeting, the commissioners approved the final draft of the regulatory package that was sent to the Office of Attorney General. After receiving approval on its legality from the Office of Attorney General, the Regulatory Package is now being presented for an official roll call vote.

MOTION:

Commissioner Shanker made a motion to approve the finalization of the LGBT Regulatory Package and to provide Package to the Legislative Review Board for posting and comments. Chairman Bolstein requested a roll call be taken to record the votes of commissioners. Commissioners Agrawal, Bolstein, Hardiman, Shanker, Sorathia and Yiengst voted yes to approve the

motion. Commissioners Jones and Patel were not in attendance and therefore, do not have a recorded vote. As such, the motion was approved that the Regulatory Package will be provided to the Legislative Review Board.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Executive Director Lassiter had the Commissioners and senior staff introduce themselves for the guest in attendance.

- Robin Burstein, Anti-Defamation League Philadelphia
- Larry Maltin, Whitpain HRC
- Zulay Rojas, Philadelphia Regional Office of PHRC
- Andrew Goretsky

Commissioner Adrian Shanker announced that he has resigned effective the end of March 2022 and it has been an honor for him to serve on the Commission.

Robin Burstein, Deputy Regional Director of the Philadelphia ADL provided a presentation to the Commission.

MANAGEMENT REPORTS

Executive Director Lassiter asked the directors to provide a brief update on current activities.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

NEXT SESSION

The next Public Session will be held in-person in Harrisburg, Monday, March 28, 2022, at 2:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

Commissioner Agrawal made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hardiman to adjourn. With all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



M. Joel Bolstein
Chairman



o/b/o Mayur Patel

Mayur Patel
Secretary