

PENNSYLVANIA HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
MINUTES OF PUBLIC COMMISSION MEETING
October 24, 2022

The meeting convened at 3:00 PM, on Monday, October 24, 2022.

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners:

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

Staff:

Chad Dion Lassiter, Executive Director
Martin Cunningham, Interim Chief Counsel
Grace Dunigan, Director of Policy, Intergovernmental Affairs and Mediation
Adrian Garcia, Director of Fair Housing and Commercial Property
Darlene Hemerka, Esq., Hearing Examiner
Kurt Jung, Esq., Director of Enforcement
Robert Lindsey, Regional Office Director -Philadelphia
Zulay Rojas, Special Assistant to Executive Director
Heather Roth, Regional Office Director - Harrisburg
Debbie Walters, Administrative Officer (absent)
Lyle Wood, Regional Office Director -Pittsburgh

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.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Executive Director Lassiter opened the monthly meeting and welcomed the staff to the monthly meeting.

Executive Director Lassiter had the commissioners and staff introduce themselves to the guests in attendance.

ADJUDICATION

MOTION: Commissioner Sorathia made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the Recommendation Final Order of the Hearing Examiner in cases 201901485 and 201901918. With all in favor, motion carried.

CONCILIATION AGREEMENTS/CONSENT ORDERS

MOTION: Commissioner Sorathia made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jones to approve the Conciliation Agreements for cases 201801451, 202001377, 202002446. With all in favor, motion carried.

REQUESTS FOR PRELIMINARY HEARINGS

MOTION: Commissioner Sorathia made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Jones to deny the requests for Preliminary Hearing in the following cases. With all in favor, motion carried.

201903198	202002587	202101222
201901830	202002676	202102189
202000981	202100285	202001914
202001026	202100610	202102100

MANAGEMENT REPORTS

Current highlights of division activities and upcoming outreach events were shared during the Compliance session. With no one outside the agency in attendance, the information was not repeated.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Randy Duque, of the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations discussed current activities of the Commission.

The executive director of Roxborough Development Corporation is looking for guidance on how to mediate local small business's hostility toward predominantly black student that attend Roxborough High School.

Sterling Johnson of UC Townhomes addressed the commission regarding families facing eviction where fair housing laws should be enacted. Mr. Johnson will be connected with non-profit developers by Commissioner Jones and Directors Garcia and Dunigan along with Interim Chief Counsel Cunningham exchanged contact information with Mr. Johnson.

Chairman Bolstein stated "It's a multi-faceted approach with PHRC looking into the discriminatory practices and city addressing funding. We are here to reduce racial tension."

Philadelphia City Council Majority Leader Curtis Jones and Vincent Thompson presented Executive Director Chad Dion Lassiter with a Resolution.

Executive Director Lassiter thanked everyone for attending.

NEXT SESSION

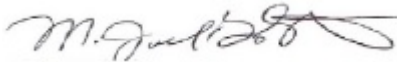
The next Public Session will be held in-person for commissioners and staff, Monday, November 28, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

Commissioner Jones made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sorathia to adjourn. With all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



M. Joel Bolstein
Chairman



Debbie Walters o/bo/
Mayur Patel
Secretary