

Office of Civil Rights & Wage Enforcement
Community Relations Commission
Public Session Minutes
November 21, 2018

Participating in the meeting were Commissioners Rev. Todd Yeary (Chair), Adote Akwei, Stephen Ruckman, Phillip Farfel, Nadine Finigan-Carr, A. Adar Ayira (phone), and Karsonya Whitehead (phone). Commissioner Stephanie Maddin-Smith was absent. Also present were Director Darnell Ingram, Raemond Parrott (CRC Supervisor), Danielle Crawley, Shavey Blackwell, and Lauren Jackson.

I. Welcome

Chair Yeary welcomed everyone to the meeting and called the meeting to order at 12:29 p.m. Director Darnell Ingram introduced himself to the Board and gave his vision and background.

II. Approval of the Minutes

The September 19, 2018 minutes were approved as written. All were in favor and the motion carried.

III. Commissioners' Report

Commissioners introduced themselves and spoke. Ayira spoke via phone and asked to identify those in the room and on the phone. There was no report from Commissioners.

IV. Director's Report

Mr. Raemond Parrott gave a follow-up on the outstanding items from September.

He stated that the EEOC contract had concluded in September and the new contract started in October. The Community Relations Commission had resolved more cases on a prorated basis than any year over the past quarter century and that information came directly from EEOC. In addition, Mr. Parrott stated that there was a back log of 105 cases and now that log is down to 17 cases. He commended the staff for their hard work, and asked the investigators to introduce themselves.

Commissioner Farfel asked about the possibility of funders that may have interest in Fair Housing. Director Ingram stated that Mr. Parrott, the staff and he will have a committee to develop a program towards Fair Housing and discrimination.

Mr. Parrott talked about status of the new case management system and that he needed to train two new employees on use of the old system that it is in place, but it is on his agenda for December. EEOC has expanded their use of the government system that is

already in place, and there has been testing of the platform. He needs to understand how much needs to be incorporated into the new system. In addition, he stated that with full access to the system, he should be able to do statistical and trend analyses.

Mr. Parrott stated that the discussion regarding public hearings was put on hold in September. Chair Yeary stated that he would like to begin to have meetings with the agency heads to discuss the data indicators where there might be concerns. 1) fire department, and 2) health department. Commissioner Ruckman stated that February would be the earliest to meet with the new Health Commissioner and then fire chief in January. Commissioner Finigan-Carr suggested that if the Commission cannot meet with the police in March, they meet with the head of housing. The communication would be similar to the letter that went out to DLLR.

Chair Yeary talked about other government agencies that could fall under the Health Commissioner in dealing with public health. Mr. Parrott stated that health and human services falls under Article IV and the Commission can take a look at the provision of health and human services as well as their format. Mr. Parrott will look at the structure of DSS to see if CRC has jurisdiction.

Commissioner Farfel asked about how the data can be revealed. Mr. Parrott stated that the data cannot be revealed to the public because the information would be subject to the confidentiality laws. However, aggregate data can be revealed to the public, and both detailed and aggregate can be revealed to the Mayor and City Council since they are the respondent.

V. Open Forum

There was no further business to discuss.

There being no further business, Chair Yeary closed the Public Session and moved into the Executive Session at 12:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Drummond
Secretary III