

Allentown

*435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101*



Minutes

Thursday, April 1, 2021

6:00 PM

Human Relations Commission

ALLENTOWN HUMAN RELATIONS MINUTES
THURSDAY APRIL 1, 2021
435 HAMILTON STREET-5TH FLOOR

Due to COVID, the meeting was held via Microsoft Teams...an executive meeting was not held.

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 by the Chair, Janet Morillo.

ROLL CALL BY THE SECRETARY: PRESENT-Janet Morillo, Hamp Smith, Linda Vega, William Seng, Tatiana Tooley, Chelsea Figueroa, Connie Santos EXCUSED ABSENCE-Tracy Springer, Louis Holzman, Carmen Roman, and Sharon Frasier and Sukown Lee
A community member was also in attendance. He identified himself as Benjamin Stemrich, a reporter with LVNPR. BenS@WLVLT.org

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR: None made as Tatiana will cover in her report.

Approval of last meetings minutes to be delayed as this secretary was absent from the previous meeting and they will be approved at the next meeting.

INFORMATION UPDATES:

AWARD BANQUET: The banquet will be held at the Barristers Club on Walnut Street and the City has paid a \$500 deposit to secure the location for Saturday, October 2nd of 2021. The awards will be in person with limited capacity due to COVID. The number of awardees will be trimmed to allow for seating of guests. Barristers will provide everything with the exception of alcoholic beverages. A cash bar will be available. The criteria for awardees will be identified by the banquet committee.

INVESTIGATIONS: Connie Santos reported that a letter was sent to the respondent on her pending case and a response is due by April 18th. No further investigations to report on.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE: A training was held today by PA Human Relations for APD and a statement was issued to the press by our Chair, Janet Morillo, regarding that training.

HRC OFFICER: Tatiana relayed that we have a new investigation regarding Public Accommodation that needs to be assigned. The chair assigned the case to Linda Vega which was approved by Janet Morillo and seconded by Hamp Smith. Tatiana was involved in three landlord tenant issues recently and one of those (N 8th St) made the news. She was able to maintain residence for those tenants. The recent Landlord Tenant page that was added to the City website has garnered national attention. Mayor Ray O'Connell submitted the page to the US Conference of Mayors and an article was published in the 3rd Issue of US Conference of Mayors Latino Alliance Quarterly Newspaper. The Internship program is to be voted on by the School Board and then returned to the Mayor for approval.

OLD BUSINESS: The part time investigator has been hired and will start when HR paperwork has been completed. The Investigator will be part of our monthly meetings.

NEW BUSINESS: Outreach was informed that Unidos, a local non-profit has invited us to be a part of a community event on June 6th.

MEETING ADJOURNED: motioned by Hamp Smith and seconded by Connie Santos.

Next meeting THURSDAY MAY 6TH AT 6PM