

## Erie County Human Relations Commission (ECHRC) – Commissioners Joint Meeting

### Minutes – June 28th 2023

#### **Call to Order/Roll Call:**

The Meeting was called to Order by chair Vice Chair Pinski via in person/zoom at 6:03 PM.

Commission Members Present: Chair Mary Jo Campbell, Vice Chair Jeff Pinski, Marc Blount, Christine Mitchell, Dana Williams

Commission Members Not Present: Kathryn DiVittorio, Katrina Bird, Ken Brasington

County/Staff Kelly Ryan

County Council Ellen Schauerman

**Minutes.** Minutes from May 24th Motion to approve by Jeff Pinski and Marc Blount approved.

**Chair Report/Commissioners Comments:** They are working on filling the open seats. Advertising of meetings and any changes was discussed. We discussed providing resources for those in need as we recommend they have legal council and our staff and legal team cannot be the clients counsel.

**Director's Report:** Director Ryan is receiving a number of inquiries. She is working on a filing system with generic numbers that she can use for reporting. Director Ryan is reviewing the process for access to public record in a filing system for those items that are public record. Currently we would have to address any right to know requests manually. Retention period are also being reviewed with legal. We are getting approved by county council to hire the investigator or second position in the office. Director Ryan will be sending that out to the team if we know any candidates also. Director Ryan has been working with the advisory board on events with a hybrid approach of tables and waling the crowds. We are committed to the pride picnic in August also. We are planning for an open house at the office likely in September. Privacy and sensitivity and independence of cases was discussed and because we are under the county but we are under county council we can be independent and handle cases against the county like the one mentioned by another county the Commissioner Pinski found in the paper.

#### **Old Business:**

**New Business:** We discussed conflicts of interest for the upcoming hearing panel. Directory Ryan will notify us of the involved parties and lawyers. We took volunteers for the upcoming hearing panel. Commissioners Campbell, Mitchell and Pinski all volunteered for the September hearing. Commissioners Byrd, Blount and Williams will all be alternates. Early September is reasonably clear for the panel – Friday evenings are probably the least preferred dates. We are still pursuing dates for commissioner training either in person or via zoom.

**Next Commissioner meeting August 23rd.**

**Adjournment:** Adjourned at 7:06 by commissioners Mitchell/Pinski.