

**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
BOROUGH OF GETTYSBURG
59 EAST HIGH STREET, GETTYSBURG, PA 17325
OCTOBER 7, 2021**

Chair Janet Riggs Called to Order the October 7, 2021 Human Relations Commission meeting at 5:00 PM. Those in attendance were: Chair Janet Riggs, Secretary Jennie Dillon, and Janelle Wertzberger. Absent were Pastor Jay Eckman, Vice Chair Taureen Moses, and Scott Hancock. Others in attendance: Councilman Matt Moon; and Jim Hale representing the *Gettysburg Times*.

Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time

Moved Ms. Dillon, seconded Ms. Wertzberger to approve the September 2, 2021 meeting minutes. All approved.

Old Business

Mission Statement – Discussions were had to change some verbiage in the Mission Statement to reflect “Borough of Gettysburg” and “Gettysburg Borough” to align with verbiage in the Non-Discrimination Ordinance.

Moved by Ms. Wertzberger, seconded by Ms. Dillon to approve the changes to the Mission Statement. All approved. – see attached

Mediation Training – Training for the HRC will be provided by Mediation Services on Saturday, October 30, 2021. Jan Powers and Rosie Bolen of Mediation Services will facilitate the training from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM, held at the Methodist Church, High St., Gettysburg, PA.

Human Relations Brochure – A draft of the brochure was created and presented for review. Revisions were made and a revised brochure is to be presented at the next HRC meeting.

Complaint Forms – A draft of the Complaint Form was created and presented for review. Revisions were made and a revised form is to be presented at the next HRC meeting. The consensus of the Commissioners was to list the categories of discrimination in the order as presented in the written Ordinance.

New Business

Outreach – Discussions were had as to what approach to take to reach out to the community, businesses, and organizations to make them aware of who and what the HRC represents. All Commissioners agreed that once the brochure and complaint forms are finalized and mediation training completed, there would be more comfortability to speak to the public.

November Meeting – Chairperson Riggs asked all to come up with items for discussion at the November 4, 2021 meeting. All agreed to have a debrief session on what was learned at mediation training. All agreed to discuss putting together a presentation for the public possibly in a PowerPoint format.

Adjournment

Chairperson Riggs adjourned the meeting at 5:58 PM. The next scheduled meeting is November 4, 2021 at 5 PM at the Borough Office.

Respectfully Submitted,


Jennie Dillon, Secretary

Attachment

Mission Statement as approved –

The Human Relations Commission (HRC) works toward the elimination of discrimination by fostering greater understanding of the rights and duties of Gettysburg Borough residents, employees, and employers.

- Everyone who lives and works in the Borough of Gettysburg is protected from unlawful discrimination by a **nondiscrimination ordinance** passed in 2020. The ordinance (§1-1301 - §1-1316) ensures more protections than does the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act.
- We provide **information and education** to residents, businesses, employers, and institutions about their rights and duties under the ordinance.
- We **facilitate the mediation of complaints** about discrimination related to employment, public accommodation, and house and commercial property.

People living and working in the Borough of Gettysburg are legally entitled to the full benefits of citizenship and equal opportunity in the areas of employment, public accommodation, and housing and commercial property. This right extends to all, regardless of race, color, sex (including sex assigned at birth, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and gender transitions and/or transgender), religion, religious creed or belief, ancestry, national origin, familial status, marital status, age, veteran status, mental or physical disability or handicap, or the use of service or assistance animals or the handler or trainer of such service animals.