

**MEETING MINUTES FOR THE  
MICHIGAN CITY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

*January 4, 2022*

**PRESENT:** Albertine Allen Soljourna Atwater Dennis Carroll  
Marty Corley Bunny Dimke Melody Haynes  
Judy Lange Mary Ellen Quinn Tyra Robinson-Walker

**ABSENT:** Diana Gore Nancy Moldenhauer Aaron O'Reilly

**OTHERS** Ta-Tanisha George Larry Arness

**PRESENT:**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The ZOOM meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by Vice Chair, Tyra Robinson-Walker.

**ROLL CALL:** Roll call was conducted. Attendance recorded above.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve minutes for December 7, 2021 was entered by Commissioner Allen and properly second by Commissioner Corley. Motion carried. Vote 9-0

**FINANCE REPORT**

Commissioner Dimke reported the account balance as of December 31, 2021 was a \$1,455.29. During December, the proceeds from the Lil Caesars Pizza kits fundraiser (\$294) were receipted in and the remaining scholarship (\$1000) was disbursed. A motion to accept the financial report as presented was entered by Commissioner Corley and seconded by Commissioner Carroll. Motion carried. Vote 9-0

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mrs. George referred to the board packet that was distributed to all members. During 2021 there were a total of five (5) cases and four (4) are currently open. She is currently working on assigning commissioners to Probable Cause Committees (PCC). She also reported that one of the cases will be ready for committee review within the next two weeks.

During the month of December 2021, the office activity included 50 contacts. Two (2) cases were forwarded to ICRC, four (4) were sent to EEOC, one (1) to HUD, one (1) to Indiana Department of Labor and two (2) to Indiana Legal Services.

**STAFF ATTORNEY'S REPORT:** Attorney Arness thanked the Commission for renewing his contract during the December 2021 meeting. He also congratulated the new officers elected at the same meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** There was no report for January.

**SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE:** There was no report for January.

**SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:** There was no report for January.

**FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

The Commission held a holiday Sip n' Paint on **Wednesday, December 8, 2021**. Commissioner O'Reilly was unable to be at the meeting but did send an email stating that he will bring in the proceeds from the event to the office. A total amount will be reported at the February meeting.

Director George informed the commission that Commissioner Dimke spent \$74.46 on supplies for the Sip n' Paint. She noted that all the supplies were not used. She suggested that Commissioner Dimke be reimbursed for \$74.46 supplies and that the leftover supplies be used for the next event. Commissioner Allen motioned that

**COMMITTEE REPORTS - Continued**

Commissioner Dimke be reimbursed for the \$74.46 and any extra supplies be used at the next Sip n' Paint event. The motioned was seconded by Commissioner Lange. Motion carried. Vote 9-0.

**SSAAM**

Director George asked that any discussion regarding the SSAAM Commission be held until New Business.

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Corley reported that the theme for the Black History Month Poster and Essay Contest is "Naomi Anderson: Michigan City's Forgotten Hero." The tentative date for distributing the information to the schools is **Monday, January 10, 2022**. Commissioner Moldenhauer is working with several people from the Celebrating Naomi Anderson Committee to create a format for the students to follow.

Director George added that the Celebrating Naomi Anderson Committee may assist the Commission by covering the cost of the prizes for the contest. If this happens, it will be a big cost savings to the Commission.

**GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE:** No Report

**MLK COMMITTEE:** No Report

**LAPORTE COUNTY PFLAG:** No Report

Director George stated there was a meeting scheduled for **January 5, 2022** at 6:00 p.m. however she is not sure if the meeting will still be held due to the increasing COVID-19 rates. If the meeting is still going to be held, it will be at the Stan Holdcraft Center at the old Elston building.

**TENANT/LANDLORD**

Mrs. George reported that she will be sending a sample of the brochure for commissioner review within the next several weeks. She added that she is exploring creating several brochures subtitled Volume 1, Volume 2, etc. due to the amount of information that needs to be shared.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The Commission discussed the installation of the Naomi Anderson sculpture(s) at Westcott Park.

Commissioner Walker-Robinson reminded everyone about the ***Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day*** celebration on **January 17, 2022**. The virtual event will be hosted by Chief Dion Campbell of the Michigan City Police Department. Since the event will be recorded, it will remain accessible for viewing possibly up to six months.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Director George informed the Commission that Commissioner Corley rescinded his interest in serving as the Commissions' liaison to the Social Status of African American Males Commission. Commissioner Corley's new duties as an Assistant Chief of Police conflicts with his ability to attend meetings.

Commissioner Quinn stated that in December there was another commissioner that expressed interest in serving in this position. Director George concurred and stated that Commissioner Quinn's email containing the information was missed by her and not opened until after the meeting. At the conclusion of this discussion, the floor was opened to nominations for Liaison to the Social Status of African American Males.

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Social Status for African American Males Liaison:

Commissioner Quinn, as representative of the nominating committee, motioned that Commissioner Carroll be elected as the Liaison to the Social Status for African American Males Commission for 2022. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Allen. There were no other nominations from the floor. Roll call vote conducted as follows:

Albertine Allen	Yes	Melody Haynes	Yes
Soljourna Atwater	Yes	Judy Lange	Yes
Dennis Carroll	Yes	Mary Ellen Quinn	Yes
Marty Corley	Yes	Tyra Robinson-Walker	Yes
Bunny Dimke	Yes		

Motion passed. Vote 9-0

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**ADJOURN:**

Motion: Commissioner Dimke  
Second: Commissioner Lange  
The meeting concluded at 5:09 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:**

February 1, 2022, 4:30 p.m. – City Hall

***Respectfully Submitted  
Ta-Tanisha George, Executive Director***