

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

February 2, 2021

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

ABSENT: Diana Gore

OTHERS Ta-Tanesha George Larry Arness Pat Harris
PRESENT:

CALL TO ORDER: The zoom meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m. by Nancy Moldenhauer

PLEDGE OF ALLIGIANCE: Not Conducted (Zoom meeting)

ROLL CALL: Roll call was conducted. Attendance and absences are recorded above.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Nancy Moldenhauer submitted the following clarifications to the January 2021 minutes.

PFLAG: Local platform provided by the national organization

New Business: She was requesting that the Naomi Anderson project be supported and sponsored by the MCHRC through engaging teens in arts and writing contest for Black History Month. She also recommends including it in the Juneteenth celebration.

A motion to approve minutes as corrected for the January 5, 2021 was entered by Dennis Carroll and second by Judy Lange. Motion Carried. Vote 9-0

FINANCE REPORT: Mrs. George informed the Commission that she forwarded financials to Mrs. Gore. She shared the report with commissioners. She stated the balance in the account on December 31, 2020 was \$5658.49. The current balance was reported as \$2363.49. She shared the P&L statement as of December 31, 2020 and is included as part of the minutes.

A motion to approve financials for January 2021 was entered by Judy Lange and second by Marty Corley. Motion carried. Vote 9-0

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mrs. George is working final plans for the Black History Month program.

There was a positive COVID-19 case reported at City Hall. The building remains closed. Equipment has been purchased to sanitize the building. At the request of Mrs. Allen, the name of the cleaning company will be provided.

STAFF ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Attorney Arness had no report but commented that the account balance is low and that it needed to be increased in order to conduct the business of the MCHRC.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: No Report

SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE: No Report

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: No Report
required information.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE: Marty Corley asked for ideas to raise funds. He will schedule a meeting for the committee to review suggestions.

Mary Ellen Quinn offered to forfeit her monthly stipend as a contribution to the Commission. Larry Arness suggested that she write a check instead. Other commissioners offered to do the same. Nancy Moldenhauer stated that each commissioner should make their individual decision on this suggestion.

Ta-Tanisha George suggested that the commission reach out to the business community. She described how in the the Herald Dispatch (formerly The News Dispatch) partnered with the Commission for events like the HOYA. Bunny Dimke requested that Mrs. George send a form letter to all commissioners so that if they approach local businesses, they have a format to follow. Marty Corley offered to help draft the letter.

Nancy Moldenhauer reminded commissioners that the payback dinners had been successful in the past and that they should be considered for future fundraising events.

SSAAM COMMISSION: Dennis Carroll reported that he is in the process of forming the committee and is looking for community partnerships.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

Marty Corley informed members that they are currently receiving entries for the art and essay contest. He reported that McDonald's donated \$300 in McBucks. He recommended the purchase \$675 in gift cards for total prize money. Mrs. George presented a chart that explained how the money and McBucks could be distributed.

The theme for the contest is "Black History is World History".

Mr. Corley asked for volunteers to judge the event. He agreed to be a judge. Due to sanitizing requirements, this will be a one-day activity. Judging will take place the week of February 15-19, 2021. Bunny Dimke and Mary Ellen Quinn agreed to act as judges also. Mrs. George will work through the entries and provide a reasonable number for judging.

Mrs. George stated that the Herald Dispatch has agreed to publish the winners in the newspaper by categories. This will replace the in-person ceremony. Facebook will also be used to announce winners.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE: No Report

MLK COMMITTEE: Commissioner Moldenhauer congratulated and thanked Mrs. Robinson-Walker for an outstanding MLK day virtual celebration event. Mrs. Robinson-Walker provided a brief summary of the event and asked commissioners to provide feedback for the committee to use during the debriefing session that will be held in March. Commissioners expressed their gratitude and appreciation for the event continuing to be held at a high level. She informed members that it is posted on MCHRC and PNW webpages.

A recommendation has been made to have mini commercials for sponsors in order to increase financial support.

COMMITTEE REPORTS -- Continued

LAPORTE COUNTY PFLAG: Nancy Moldenhauer informed members that the next PFLAG meeting is Wednesday, February 3, 2021, 6:30 p.m. This will be a zoom meeting. They can be contacted at mcpflag@gmail.com or (219) 561-0948. The meeting is always the first Wednesday of the month. All information can also be found on the face book page.

OLD BUSINESS:

Tenant/Landlord: Mrs. George spoke with Bryant Dabney regarding this issue. He agreed to meet with the committee and Councilman Przybylinski. She will contact Mrs. Allen to schedule a date for the meeting.

Naomi Anderson Project: Nancy Moldenhauer stated that she is not able to announce the artist, but it will be announced this month and that it is a local artist. She will work with the education committee to have included in the Juneteenth event at the LaPorte County Convention and Visitors Bureau.

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURN:

The meeting concluded at 5:18 p.m.
Motion: Dennis Carroll
Second: Albertine Allen Vote 9-0

NEXT MEETING:

March 2, 2021, 4:30 p.m.
Zoom

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