

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

March 3, 2020

PRESENT: Dennis Carroll Melody Haynes Mary Ellen Quinn
Marty Corley Abagael May Tyra Robinson-Walker
Diana Gore

ABSENT: Albertine Allen Judy Lange Bunny Dimke Nancy Moldenhauer

OTHERS Ta-Tanisha George Don Przybylinski
PRESENT: Pat Harris ALCO TV

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 4:34 p.m. by Commissioner May

PLEDGE OF ALLIGIANCE: Conducted by Abagael May

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was entered by Marty Corley and second by Dennis Carroll to approve minutes for February 4, 2020. Motion carried. Vote 7-0.

FINANCE REPORT: Marty Corley distributed the February financial report and informed the Commission that disbursements totaling \$1170 were made to the recipients of the Black History Month contest awards. He reported that the paint and sip fundraiser generated revenues of \$540. Expenses are estimated to be \$130, leaving a balance of \$5209.75.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mrs. George announced that March is Disability Awareness month. Joanne Tedesco contacted her regarding to the activities that will take place in March. She informed the group that on March 4, she will be attending an event at MCAS administration building to show appreciation to special support services staff.

She stated that Indiana will also have some activities that are posted on the website. In addition, she will have posters later in the month. The theme this year is "People, Not Punchlines".

Mrs. George announced that March is also Women's History month. The Women's Commission will host activities including a scholarship event.

She distributed a list of committees and members on the committees. She asked each commissioner to review the list and update any information as needed.

STAFF ATTORNEY'S REPORT: No Report.

SSAAM COMMISSION: Dennis Carroll reminded members that the NAACP will host is 3rd annual Trailblazer Freedom Fund and Scholarship Banquet on Saturday, March 21, 2020, 6:00 – 11:00. For additional information and tickets, he referred members to Faye Moore or LaTonya Troutman.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: No Report.

SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE: Mary Ellen Quinn is continuing efforts to plan the annual fundraising event for the Commission.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: Marty Corley reported that applications were sent to MCHS and Marquette. He stated that the Drifters conducted workshops on preparing and submitting applications. He asked for three volunteers to review applications. There will be two (2) scholarships for \$1000 each. The application deadline is April 3, 2020 and selections will be made on April 18, 2020.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE: Marty Corley informed members that the Paint & Sip event on February 13th was a success. There was 13 in attendance. More were expected but were hindered by bad weather. The event generated \$540 revenue. Expenses totaled \$130 for supplies provided by Mrs. Dimke. He thanked Mrs. Dimke for donating her time to be the instructor for the event. This resulted in a profit for MCHRC of \$410. A motion was entered by Abagael May to reimburse Mrs. Dimke \$130 for supplies for the Paint and Sip fundraiser. The motion was properly second by Tyra Robinson-Walker. Motion carried. Vote 7-0

EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Marty Corley reported that The Black History month contest participation was high. The awards program was held on February 27 with the Mayor speaking to the winners and taking photos.

Marty Corley reminded members that planning for the Humanitarian of the Year needs to begin as soon as possible. Mrs. George will reach out to all media for publication of the nominating form. She will contact the News-Dispatch, ALCO, LaPorte County Life and on the City's new web page.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE: No Report

MLK COMMITTEE: Tyra Robinson-Walker reminded members to provide feedback on the event by email by the end of the month. The committee will have a debriefing meeting on March 24, 2020.

LAPORTE COUNTY PFLAG: No Report

OLD BUSINESS: Job Fair -- Mrs. George requested to table this topic.

Probable Cause Committee -- Mrs. George reported that she has a case being reviewed by the committee. She would like to have a fourth member serve on the committee for this case. Once the date and time for the meeting has been established, she will act as a quasi instructor. She has the additional information for this case that was requested by the committee.

State Conference -- Mrs. George informed members that the organization is moving forward with plans. They are currently filling speakers for the various workshops. The keynote speaker has not been identified. Mrs. George stated that she will welcome participants along with the mayor if he is available. Marty Corley stated that he received an inquiry about using local speakers. Mrs. George will follow-up with the planning committee to determine how local speakers will be utilized.

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: Aaron O'Reilly, 2020 Pride Fest Chair and owner of Fiddleheads, inquired if the HRC will contribute \$500 towards the 2020 Pride Fest. He stated that this is the amount that had been donated in 2019. He informed members that booths are available to the HRC to educate attendees on its work. The event will be held on Saturday, June 20, 2020. He left sponsor forms with the commission and stated that he will also send an e-mail. He expressed interest in serving on Commission and shared that he submitted an application to the mayor.

ADJOURN:
Motion, Marty Corley, Second Dennis Carroll, Vote 7-0
The meeting concluded at 5:01 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:
Tuesday, April 7, 2020, 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Ta-Tanisha George, Executive Director