

New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights



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NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

October 6, 2022, at 5:15 PM

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners present: Christian Kim (Chair), Adrienne Evans, Nancy LeRoy, Elizabeth Asch, Basra Mohamed (via telephone, alone in Manchester) and Harvey Keye (via telephone, in his garage, alone).

Commission Staff: Executive Director, Ahni Malachi and Investigator, Joyce J. Samuel

Commissioner Chair Kim called the meeting to order at 5:16 PM.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Chair Kim asked if anyone from the public was present and wished to make public comment. No members of the public are present.

2. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Chair Kim moved, and Commissioner Asch seconded the motion to approve the September meeting minutes.

Roll call:

Commissioner Kim – yea;
Commissioner Keye – yea;
Commissioner Mohamed – yea;
Commissioner LeRoy – yea;
Commissioner Asch – yea;
Commissioner Evans – yea.

Not present is Commissioner Palardy.

September meeting minutes are approved.

3. GACDI UPDATE

Executive Director Malachi gave an update on continued work on the educational tool kit by the Governor's Council on Diversity and Inclusion ("GACDI"). It is not complete yet, however, it has been handed over to the Attorney General's office for review. Their next meeting is on October 18, 2022, to go over notes received from the Attorney General's office. There was also a presentation by Shannon Desilets, director of the New Hampshire Choose Love Program. She has a background in physical therapy and is doing work with Newtown families in Newtown, Connecticut after violence. The Choose Love program is free and available across the country, but New Hampshire is the only state that makes it a statewide initiative.

When Choose Love Director Shannon Desilets discovered what GACDI was doing, she wanted to connect and include some of their information in the toolkit.

4. OFFICE UPDATES - HRC/EEOC – COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENTS

Executive Director Malachi reported on the latest and upcoming community outreach events. There was one on Wednesday, October 5, 2022, in Concord, NH. Another event is scheduled on October 12, 2022, in Manchester, NH. Executive Director Malachi stated Commissioner Evans was instrumental in designing the flyers and name badges for the event and expressed her thanks.

Commissioner Keye requested that Nashua, NH be included as a location in future events.

Executive Director Malachi stated Nashua, NH would be included as a location for future events, and further stated people and organizations across the state were invited to attend the events in both locations.

Executive Director Malachi reported the event in Concord went well. Ken An, the area manager from the EEOC, drove up from Boston to attend both events. There was a good turnout from many organizations. Two organizations that specifically deal with the immigrant and refugee community were present, along with James McKim from the Manchester, NH NAACP. Executive Director Malachi reported feedback was positive as attendees felt it was a good use of time and valuable to connect with others who could be helpful resources.

Commissioner Keye requests leave. Commissioner Chair Kim approved. Commissioner Keye left at 5:28 PM.

5. REVIEW OF INVESTIGATOR CASE LOAD

Executive Director Malachi reported the contract with the EEOC was initially to close 200 cases. This number was upward modified twice, and at the end of the period, the HRC closed 250 cases, even with multiple transitions with staff throughout the year.

6. HEARING SCHEDULE

Executive Director Malachi reported the cases scheduled for hearings in October and November both settled. The next hearing on the list is in February 2023, which will be assigned at the next meeting in November.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Chair Kim asks if there is other business. No other business is reported.

8. NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Commissioner Kim has requested the Commissioners enter non-public session to discuss a personnel matter. Commissioner Kim moved that pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a), the Commission enter non-public session to discuss personnel matters. Commissioner LeRoy seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor: The motion carried. The entered non-public session at 5:32 PM.

Roll call in for non-public session.

Commissioner Chair Kim – yea;
Commissioner Mohamed – yea;
Commissioner LeRoy – yea;
Commissioner Asch – yea;
Commissioner Evans – yea.

Non-public session ended at 6:26 PM.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner LeRoy moved for adjournment and Commissioner Asch seconded.

Roll call:

Commissioner Mohamed – yea;
Commissioner Evans – yea;
Commissioner LeRoy – yea;

Commissioner Asch – yea;
Commissioner Kim – yea.

The Commissioners meeting adjourned at 6:27 PM.