

New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights

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NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

September 7, 2023, at 5:00 PM

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners present: Christian Kim (Chair), Elizabeth Asch, Nancy LeRoy (via Zoom – Home, Alone), Basra Mohamed and Adrienne Evans (via phone)

Commission Staff: Executive Director, Ahni Malachi
Assistant Director, Sarah Burke Cohen
Investigator, Joyce J. Samuel (Secretary)

Also present: Attorney Sean Locke, NH Attorney General's Office – DOJ

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Kim noted the official meeting of the Commissioners is canceled due to lack of quorum, however, upon seeing members of the public present, Commissioner Kim offered to let them be heard as a courtesy.

There are two members of the public present.

Joe Haas lives in Gilmanston, NH. Mr. Haas voiced concerns about his right to work and attended the meeting today to see if the Commission could assist with protecting his civil liberties. Mr. Haas inquired if a bill before the House supported by the Commission would be appropriate.

Commissioner Kim informed Mr. Haas that the Commission can only address claims arising out of a discriminatory basis. He advised Mr. Haas to seek out an agency with a broader view that could assist with his concern of protecting his civil liberties. Commissioner Kim also stated the Commission could not give legal advice and it would be beneficial to Mr. Haas to seek legal counsel for his concerns.

The second member of the public present is Mr. John Clinch. Mr. Clinch introduced himself as one of the auditors from the Office of Legislative Budget Assistance, a legislative audit agency. His office generally performs audits of the executive and judicial branches. Mr. Clinch stated there is a scope statement for the audit of the NHCHR which was approved by the legislative and audit committee. This scope has a goal of analyzing the efficiency and effectiveness of the NHCHR. He offered that he is available to the Commissioners for questions as needed.

Commissioner Kim welcomed Mr. Clinch and suggested he return for a proper meeting of the Commissioners. Commissioner Kim also voiced his eagerness to learn from the audit what the NHCHR can change to do things better. Commissioner Kim further stated the NHCHR is happy to work with him and are all available if he has questions.

This informal meeting was concluded at 5:28 PM.