

**Minutes of the Civil Rights Enforcement Agency Commissioners' Meeting
Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.**

In Attendance:

A.J. Bockelman, Commissioner
Carol Robinson, Commissioner Chair
David Newburger, Commissioner
Elmedina Tasic, Commissioner
Jaymes Dearing, Commissioner
Lisa Gould, Commissioner
Nancy Williams, Commissioner

Excused:

Adil Imdad, Commissioner
Charles Brown, Commissioner Vice Chairman
Christine Ingrassia, 6th Alderwoman/Commissioner
Sal Martinez, Commissioner

Staff:

Charles Bryson, Executive Director
Denise Jefferson, Deputy Director
Angela Brown, Administrative Assistant
Karin Jones, Human Relations Specialist
Nakell Davis, Clerk Typist I
Philip Taylor, Human Relations Specialist
Robert Jordan, Human Relation Specialist

Executive Director's Report

- Budget update
- CREA Presentations
- CREA Collaboration
- CREA Podcasts

Deputy Director's Report

- 2019 to date statistics
- Case loads
- CDA grant update
- Scheduling 2019 Commission Retreat
- Staff discussion of cases

Commission Chair

- Meetings for the rest of the year

Adjourn

Meeting called to order at 9:02 a.m.

Handouts distributed:

Meeting Agenda; Meeting Minutes from 3/12/19 minutes; Completed CDA presentations; Fair Housing Trainings dates and locations; Upcoming Outreach with dates and locations (corrections: Barrett Brothers Park 5/18/19; 6/26/19 next Fair Housing Training at O'Fallon Rec. Center; add 10/9/19 at the Thomas Dunn Learning Center); Calls tally sheet; 2019 Intakes; and 2019 Case Closures.

Commissioner Williams motioned to approve last meeting minutes and approval was seconded by Commissioner Dearing.

Director Bryson reported the budget for FY'20 has been submitted and request for increasing budget was not approved. Also, there will be no additional funding from HUD.

The new member of the Commission will be Alderwoman Christine Ingrassia. Alderwoman Ingrassia is a leading advocate at the Board of Aldermen for civil/human rights. She had a previous meeting and was unable to attend today. However, she will be attending future meetings, depending on the schedule of the Board of Aldermen.

Director Bryson prepared an Equal Employment flyer to be distributed to major corporations to display in their workplace. A total of 2000 flyers will be sent to employer throughout the city and so far 450 flyers have been mailed to employers throughout the City.

To increase our number of Public Accommodation inquires Director Bryson will meet with organizations and community programs whose has direct access to persons with disabilities. We will be presenting to the MO Council for the Blind in June/July 2019 with future presentations with other organizations.

Commissioner Dearing invited CREA to speak at the Carondelet Business luncheon at the Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet Motherhouse on Friday, May 17, 2019; Director Bryson will be in attendance.

The month of May is "Mental Awareness" therefore all podcasts are about different topics of mental health. Last Thursday, Commissioner Williams addressed toxic stress and trauma in children. Next Thursday mental health in African-American men will be discussed on our podcast. May 30, 2019 podcasts Director Bryson will interview his daughter to discuss mental health issues around being bisexual as well as other LGBTIQ mental struggles and their effects. June is Pride month and therefore June 6, 2019 the

podcasts will focus on the LGBTIQ in the African-American community and the upcoming Pride events.

Commissioner Gould discussed how it is against the law in the City of St. Louis for 5 unrelated women to live in the same dwelling because of Missouri State statues. It will be discussed again when Alderwoman Ingrassia is in attendance.

Deputy Director Jefferson discussed handouts that were distributed which listed the number of intakes, case loads and closures. Intake numbers are low therefore Deputy Director Jefferson will prepare to reach out to recipients of CREA currently has 24 open cases (12 Employment, 9 Housing 2 Source of Income and 1 Public Accommodation). Nakell Davis, Clerk Typist updated the phone tally sheets related to the number of calls police and legal information.

Upcoming outreach events will include Tower Grove Pridefest but CREA will not be participating in the downtown Pridefest this year. Commissioners are welcome to attend any of the outreach events listed on the handout. Director Bryson thanked Commissioner Williams for attending the Earth Day event in May 2019. Commissioner Gould will look into CREA presenting at one of SEIU meeting.

The Commissioners and Staff Retreat will be on Tuesday, September 10, 2019 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at NexCore located at 2631 Gravois Avenue and lunch will be provided. Deputy Director Jefferson has asked all Commissioners to submit their strategic plan(s) for the future of CREA. Team building activities will be provided by the City of St. Louis Personnel Department Training & Organizational staff.

Human Relations Specialists Robert Jordan, Karin Ousley and Philip Taylor discussed current cases and their current status. Mr. Jordan is currently investigating the housing case on Art Lofts located at 1531 Washington which has aired on Fox 2 News due to 2 elevators inoperable causing harm to residents with disabilities.

Future meetings are as follows:

Board meeting: July 9 & November 12, 2019 9am at SEIU.

Retreat September 10, 2019 at NexCore

Meeting adjourned at 10:06 a.m.