MEETING MINUTES FOR
MICHIGAN CITY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

PRESENT:
Albertine Allen  Diana Gore  Mary Ellen Quinn
Dennis Carroll  Melody Haynes  Joanne Tedesco
Steve Garner  Abagael May  Tyra Robinson-Walker

ABSENT:
Marty Corley  Nancy Moldenhauer  Sharon Wright

OTHERS PRESENT:
Carl Ridle  Atty. Larry Arness  Pat Harris

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. by Commissioner Quinn

ROLL CALL: Pat Harris conducted the roll call. Attendance and absences are reflected above.
It was noted that a quorum was not present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Pastor Carroll motioned to approve the December 2018 minutes.
It was second by Steve Garner. Motion carried, vote 8-0. At 4:55 p.m. a motion was entered by
Tyra Robinson-Walker to approve the November 2018 minutes with the correction of changing night
school to after school program in the education committee report. It was second by Albertine Allen.
Motion carried, vote 9-0

FINANCE REPORT: In the absence of the treasurer, there was no report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT: Carl Ridle encouraged all members to discuss any financial
concerns while a quorum is present so that any voting can be handled during the meeting. He reminded
members of the Martin Luther King Day celebration on Monday, January 21. It will be held at PNW at 8:00
a.m. He asked for approval to contribute $500 to the event. A motion for approval
was entered by Albertine Allen and properly second by Steve Garner. Motion carried, vote 8-0

Mr. Ridle informed commissioners that the Black History Month essay and poster contest needs a theme.
Commissioners were asked to submit ideas via e-mail to everyone no later than January 9, 2019, 5:00 p.m.
Commissioners will vote on a theme on January 10, 2019. He stated that the theme last year was “Evolution
of Activism on Effecting Change”. He also stated that he needs judges. The tentative deadline for entries is
February 8, 2019. Judging will take place on February 15, 2019. Plans include having Mayor Meer
congratulate students on February 28, 2019.

Carl Ridle has reserved Memorial Park at no cost for Friday, April 26, 2019 for the annual HRC luncheon.
Commissioner Quinn suggested doing something different to mix it up. This will be considered during the
planning of the activities for the luncheon.

NOTE: Tyra Robinson-Walker joined the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

Mr. Ridle asked for approval to partner with Blue Chip Casino for the annual job fair in April. He requested
approval to contribute $500 as a sponsor. He suggested that this is included as a yearly expenditure in the
budget. There are no other obligations for sponsorship. Joanne Tedesco inquired about the relativity of the job
fair to the HRC. Mr. Ridle stated that it provides a high level of job awareness to individuals in the community
and encouraged all members to attend. He noted that employers that hire people with disabilities, such as
Paladin, will be at the job fair. Attorney Arness stated that the Mayor has a commitment to employ
Michigan City residents. A motion to approve the $500 sponsorship for the job fair in April was entered by
Albertine Allen and properly second by Pastor Carroll. Motion carried, vote 9-0

He announced that the NAACP will hold the Trail Blazer Banquet on Saturday, March 23, 2019. The keynote
speaker will be Judge Shequitta Kelly-Joubert. He asked to sponsor the event at the $250 level. A motion to
approve was made by Diana Gore and second by Pastor Carroll. Motion carried, vote 9-0
STAFF ATTORNEY’S REPORT: No Report

SSAAM COMMISSION: No Report

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: No Report

SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE: Mary Ellen Quinn informed members that they are working on a date for the annual luncheon. Tentatively scheduled for 4/26/19. She and Mr. Ridle will meet soon to begin plans.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE: No Report

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE: No Report

EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Abagael May entered a motion to approved $200 each for the inclusion grants to Christin Kiser, Robin Kraskow and Evelyn Holtz for MCAS. It was second by Joanne Todesco. Motion carried, vote 9-0

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE: No Report

MLK COMMITTEE: Commissioner Robinson-Walker reminded members of the MLK day celebration on Monday, January 21, 2019 at PNW Dworkin Center and a second celebration will be held on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at the Hammond campus. Dr. Theo Williams will be the keynote speaker for both events. CJ will perform a song that he wrote about Dr. Martin Luther King. She asked for confirmation of HRC members planning to attend. A table has been reserved and the Mayor and his wife will be at the HRC table. Confirming members were Commissioners May, Carroll, Haynes, Gore and Garner

Attorney Arness reminded HRC members that “talk to an attorney” at no cost will be held on King day at both libraries in LaPorte County from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. He stated that there are no requirements.

LAPORTE COUNTY PFLAG: No Report

OLD BUSINESS:
Election of Officers
Attorney Arness conducted the elections process for officers, executive committee appointments and SSAAM appointment. The following nominations were made.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Nominee</th>
<th>Nominated By</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>Steve Garner</td>
<td>Albertine Allen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice Chairman</td>
<td>Abagael May</td>
<td>Mary Ellen Quinn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Sharon Wright</td>
<td>Mary Ellen Quinn</td>
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The roll call vote for the slate was made as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Vote</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albertine Allen</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Carroll</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steve Garner</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diana Gore</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melody Haynes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abagael May</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Ellen Quinn</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joanne Todesco</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyra Robinson-Walker</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The slate of officers for 2019 was approved by a vote of 9-0
OLD BUSINESS  Continued:
Election of Officers

Larry Arness stated that in addition to the officers, two at-large members were needed to serve on the executive committee. The following commissioners were nominated.

- Diana Gore  Nominated by Albertine Allen
- Mary Ellen Quinn  Nominated by Mary Ellen Quinn
- Tyra Robinson-Walker  Nominated by Abagael May
- Pastor Dennis Carroll  Nominated by Pastor Carroll

The roll call for the vote of two at-large members to serve on the executive committee was made as follows:

Albertine Allen   Quinn   Gore
Dennis Carroll   Carroll   Quinn
Steve Garner   Quinn   Robinson-Walker
Diana Gore   Gore   Robinson-Walker
Melody Haynes   Quinn   Robinson-Walker
Abagael May   Gore   Quinn
Mary Ellen Quinn   Gore   Robinson-Walker
Joanne Todesco   Quinn   Gore
Tyra Robinson-Walker   Quinn   Gore

Voting results: Quinn-7, Gore-6, Robinson-Walker-4, Carroll-1

Commissioners Quinn and Gore will serve as at-large members on the executive committee

SSAAM Appointment  Pastor Dennis Carroll  Nominated by Pastor Carroll

The roll call vote for the SSAAM appointment was made as follows:

Albertine Allen   Yes
Dennis Carroll   Yes
Steve Garner   Yes
Diana Gore   Yes
Melody Haynes   Yes
Abagael May   Yes
Mary Ellen Quinn   Yes
Joanne Todesco   Yes
Tyra Robinson-Walker   Yes

The appointment of Pastor Carroll to the SSAAM commission was approved by a vote of 9-0

Commissioner Todesco reminded board members that the business cards are available for pick-up in Mr. Ridle’s office. Also, names tags are going to be white with black letters and will be available next week.

Joanne Todesco expressed concern about a conversation with Hubert Morgan. She explained that voices are not positive on how the community views people with disabilities. She suggested training on how to treat people with disabilities during March which is disability awareness month. She requested $3300 to train the Michigan City community. After discussion on cost, logistics, etc., Commissioner Todesco motioned to have a proposal prepared and send it to the finance committee to review and present to the board. It was second by Tyra Robinson-Walker. Motioned carried, vote 9-0
NEW BUSINESS
Carl Ridle reminded members to forward agenda items to him prior to the meetings and he will be sure they are on the agenda.

Mr. Ridle requested that the HRC reimburse Sharon Wright for funds expended from her personal account to cover upfront expenses for MLK day contribution. The amount is $500. Albertine Allen entered the motion to reimburse Commissioner Wright $500 for MLK day contribution. It was properly second by Steve Garner. Motion carried, vote 9-0

Pastor Carroll informed members that he has been voted 2nd VP for the NAACP.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
Abagael May announced that January is national mentor month. LaPorte county collaboration for one youth focused group sponsored by the United Way. She also informed members of the services and resources available through the United Way’s 211 service.

Pastor Carroll stated that he is mentoring at Pine and is enjoying the experience. He is also going to revive the Southgate Neighborhood Association.

Commissioner Quinn congratulated Joanne Todesco on being elected to serve on the MCAS school board and for running an honest and clean campaign.

ADJOURN:
The meeting concluded at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Carl Ridle, Executive Director