



Meeting Record

Human Rights Board (HRB)

Date: November 16, 2015

Call to Order: 5:06 PM

Attendees

Maria Barth	Jason Blank	Miya Burt-Stewart
Fayola Delica	Ellen Feiler	Rob Gillette
S.F. Makalani-MaHee	Gregory Milford	Jose Morera
Michael Rajner	Phyllis Shaw	Ben Sorensen (via phone)
Barbara Ann McGovern, Board Coordinator	Adam Katzman, Asst. Cty. Atty.	

Members Absent

Judith Ann	Marta Estevez	Leisa Wintz	
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Key Decisions

- *Revised Agenda* adopted; July 27, 2015, Meeting Minutes approved.
- Election: Michael Rajner, Chair; Fayola Delica, Vice Chair.

Action Items

	Description	Resource	Status
1.	Submit request for Board budget, again, as a supplemental, per Commissioner Ritter's advisement to Mr. Rajner.	Ms. McGovern to OIAPS Director Edward Labrador	In progress
2.	Request for County Commission resolution(s) for HB 401, Protection of Religious Freedom, and H.R. 3185, Equality Act.	Ms. McGovern to OIAPS Director Edward Labrador	In progress

Discussion Points

Moment of Silence

In memory of the victims of terrorists attacks and campus shootings.

• **NEW BOARD APPOINTEES**

Ms. Ellen Feiler. Newly retired from the Department of Health after 35 years; advanced degree in Gerontology; field is public health and health science; and Ms. Feiler has been active in the community for 35 years.

Ms. Maria Barth. Legislative Assistant to State Representative Joseph Geller.

• **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Nominees for Chair: Nomination of Mr. Rajner by Ms. Shaw. Mr. Rajner accepts the nomination. With no further nominations, the nominations for Chair are closed.

MOTION by Ms. Shaw to elect the single nominee, Mr. Rajner, as Chair of the Human Rights Board.

Seconded by Ms. Feiler. *Passed Unanimously.*

Nominees for Vice Chair: Nomination of Ms. Delica by Ms. Shaw. Ms. Delica accepts the nomination. With no further nominations, the nominations for Vice Chair are closed.

MOTION by Ms. Shaw to elect the single nominee, Ms. Delica, as Vice Chair of the Human Rights Board. Seconded by Mr. Milford. *Passed Unanimously.*

Note: Article V – Election of Officers, Section 2, of the Bylaws provides that each nominee will have three minutes to provide a statement of their candidacy. As there was only a single nominee for each office, the Chair took the liberty to do away with this procedure in the interest of time.

- **LITIGATION REPORT**

Richard Glisson v. Publix Super Markets: 4th District Court of Appeal denied Mr. Glisson's appeal and he has petitioned the Court for a written order. The Court issued a *per curiam* decision which means affirmed but no opinion. In order to appeal to Florida Supreme Court, there must be an opinion. Glisson has petitioned the Court for a written opinion.

McDonald v. Marigold Condominium Association: County filed a federal case against Marigold for familial status discrimination, claiming they did not qualify as a 55 years and older facility. Settlement of \$12,500 for McDonald and Marigold forgave her all previous past due association costs, fees, and penalties (about \$10,000); dismissed eviction lawsuit; the Association must be compliant with the Fair Housing Act pertaining to 55 and older communities within 180 days; and receive training from the Human Rights Section.

Alina Apoloskiya v. Condo Assoc. of La Mer Estates, Inc.: County filed in federal court against La Mer alleging fair housing discrimination based on Ms. Apoloskiya's disability and in retaliation for requesting an accommodation for an emotional support animal for her disability. Settlement of \$15,000 for Apoloskiya; dismissed its eviction lawsuit with prejudice; permit emotional support animal to remain on premises; and La Mer will receive fair housing training from the Human Rights Section.

- **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Domestic Partnership Act: County accepted the Board's recommendations with negotiation to get our recommendations as close as possible to what they were. There is a reciprocity provision; funeral rites decision; burial rights decisions; participation in education of domestic partner's dependent; declaration to be completed and specifically select that you are granting your domestic partner such a right to make your decision for you.

- **BOARD COORDINATOR REPORT**

Board Annual Budget: No budget for FY 2016; submit request for FY 2017 at the end of February 2016. Mr. Rajner stated he spoke with Commission Ritter who advised to submit it, now, as a supplemental.

5:32 PM, Mr. Morera, via phone, leaves the meeting.

- **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Broward County Federal & State Legislative Agenda by Marty Cassini, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs & Professional Standards

We travel to Washington, DC, and Tallahassee to influence policy making, seek appropriations from budget writers, oppose bad bills, and push legislation that is set by County Commission policy. These policies are contained within the state and federal legislative programs which were provided to the HRB members. Intergovernmental Affairs always seeks feedback from all of our advisory boards on issues under their purview and are now seeking feedback for updates to our federal program.

HB 401, Protection of Religious Freedom: Mr. Rajner requested Mr. Cassini to consider bringing a resolution from the County Commission to oppose this legislation for how outrageous and offensive on so many grounds.

HB 45, Prohibited Discrimination, to expand the state civil rights act to mirror many of the protections, mainly LGBT, in the Broward County Human Rights Act. A further amendment could be called for in the state's Civil Rights Act

which does not include protections in retail atmospheres, so there is additional language in public accommodations that needs to be expanded.

MOTION by Mr. Makalani-Mahee recommending the County Commission adopt a resolution strongly opposing HB 401, Protection of Religious Freedom, for its broad discriminatory practices which would, for example, not allow a Christian adoption agency to adopt to a Jewish couple. Seconded by Ms. Shaw. *Passed Unanimously.*

MOTION by Mr. Blank requesting the County Commission adopt a resolution supporting H.R.3185 – Equality Act, which amends the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to include sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity among the prohibited categories of discrimination or segregation in places of public accommodation. Seconded by Mr. Sorensen. *Passed Unanimously.*

5:50 PM, Mr. Makalani-MaHee leaves the meeting.

Having lost quorum at 5:50 PM, the meeting was adjourned.

The next scheduled Board meeting will convene:

Monday, January 11, 2016, 4 PM, Governmental Center, Room 301.

If any Board Member or other party would like more detailed information about the contents of these summarized minutes, a compact disk will be available by contacting the Human Rights Section at 954-357-7800.