

**Lower Gwynedd Township
Human Relations Commission
Thursday, May 2, 2024
Meeting Minutes**

Commission Members Present:

Christine Lamar
Stella Lee
Tina Martin

Commission Members Absent:

Meredith Roark
Andrew Abramson

Supervisors Present:

Jimmy Chong

Staff:

Michelle Farzetta – absent (taking minutes via recording)

Call to Order – Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of the minutes from March 7, 2024 – Ms. Lamar made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Ms. Lee. Motion passed 2-0. Ms. Martin abstained due to absence from the meeting.

Township Solicitor Neil Stein, Esquire to discuss Sunshine Act

Neil Stein, Township Solicitor attended the HRC meeting to review the Sunshine Act. This Act requires agencies to deliberate and take official action on agency business in an open and public meeting. It requires that meetings have prior notice, and that the public can attend, participate, and comment before an agency takes that official action. The Human Relations Commission (HRC) meets these criteria. Mr. Stein reviewed the definition of a quorum and how to handle social situations when addressing committee information. Mr. Stein also reviewed the advertisement requirements for meetings and postings of agendas, as well as making amendments to an agenda during a meeting. Mr. Stein also addressed the exceptions for the Sunshine Act, which are Exec Sessions and conferences where a presentation is given. The last topic he discussed was communicating via social media, email, and text. If the communication is a group of 3 or more then that is considered a quorum, and all communication must stop until they are in a public setting. Talking one on one is fine, but all conversations via email, text or through social media would be subject to the Right to Know Law. If anyone should be in violation, then the violation could be brought to the Court of Common Pleas.

Ms. Lamar inquired about using their Lower Gwynedd email address versus creating personal emails only for HRC use. He suggested members use a personal email address dedicated to the HRC.

Discussion regarding update to LG Township Ordinance

Ms. Lamar asked us to table this item until the next meeting, as she would like all five members present for the discussion. Ms. Lee made a motion to table this item. Motion passed 3-0.

New Business

There was no new business to address.

Comments or Questions from the public

There were no comments from the public.

Township updates from the Board of Supervisors Liaison- Jimmy Chong

Mr. Chong shared an email he received from Cathy Pagano regarding a Pride Safety Webinar for anyone who might be planning a pride month event.

He also asked that they try to have a bigger presence on social media and the township website.

Adjournment

Ms. Lamar made at 7:44 pm to adjourn. Motion was approved 3-0.