

**City of Tampa
Human Rights Board
Meeting Minutes
October 10, 2017**

The City of Tampa Human Rights Board held its quarterly meeting on Tuesday, October 10, 2017, at 8:42 a.m., at the Development Services Center, 1400 N. Boulevard, 3rd Floor SE Conference Room in Tampa, FL 33607.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Anthony Carswell	Ashley Roberts	John Perry
Janet MacNealy	Sylvia Hubbard	

MEMBERS ABSENT

Parker Homans	Anna Ramos
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CITY OF TAMPA REPRESENTATIVES IN ATTENDANCE

Betina Baron	Adriana Escander	Justin Vaske
Shakayla Birch	Patricia Newton	

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Chairman, Anthony Carswell, called the meeting to order and called the roll.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (June 13, 2017)

The minutes for June 13, 2017, were reviewed by the members present. A **motion** was made by J. Perry, **seconded** by A. Roberts, to accept the minutes as presented, and the **motion passed** unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

After opening the public comments section with introductions, the Board Chair turned the meeting over to Marsha Buckley, the Complainant in the case of Marsha Dean Buckley vs. Diplomat Condominium Assoc., Inc. M. Buckley was accompanied by her son, Brian Pajak, and Attorney, Bryant H. Dunivan, Jr., Esq., and they all made statements to the board in disagreement with the No Probable Cause determination issued in her fair housing complaint.

HUMAN RIGHTS BOARD MEMBERS

New Board member Janet MacNealy was introduced to the Board and TOHR staff. She stated she was excited about being a part of such an important Board. J. MacNealy replaces Caine Kreimendahl, who resigned from the Board, due to accepting a teaching position in Kansas City, Missouri.

REGULAR REPORTS

Supervisor's Report-P. Newton informed the board, that with the updates to the City's webpage, the Board has a platform to publish a statement addressing current issues of the day. Before publishing the statement, the Board will submit the content for approval to Thom Snelling and/or Vanessa McCleary via P. Newton.

P. Newton reported that the Tampa Office of Human Rights (TOHR) had a very successful year. TOHR closed twenty-three (23) fair housing discrimination cases. Eleven (11) cases were closed through Conciliation Agreements. Eleven (11) cases were closed with No Cause determinations and one (1) case closed with a Cause determination. TOHR received more than \$94,000 from HUD for case resolutions, staff/Board training, and administrative costs.

TOHR closed eleven (11) employment discrimination cases at \$700 per resolution and seven (7) intakes at \$70 per intake were deferred to EEOC. TOHR Investigators have attended four (4) EEOC quarterly training sessions. S. Birch will be shadowing a federal EEOC investigator for an on-site as part of the new hire training process.

TOHR has increased its presence in the community, by participating in outreach events on Saturdays and week nights and TOHR is easily found on the City of Tampa website. Approximately 309 inquiries from October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017 were received. The highest volume of the inquiries was for housing. TOHR also received inquiries for employment, landlord/tenant issues, public accommodations, and other.

Attorney's Report- J. Vaske reported to the board that he attended the EEOC/FEPA Annual Training Conference in Cleveland, OH in July 2017. The conference was legally intense with lots of good resources, which he is using on a regular basis. He also met with Mike Ferrell, Director of EEOC's Miami District Office, and informed him that more training for attorneys would be beneficial.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

HOUSING CASE REVIEWS

Marsha Buckley v. Diplomat Condominium Association, Inc.

Along with comments from the Complainant, her son and legal representative, the Board heard from P. Newton and S. Birch about the facts of the case. After a brief discussion, the Board adopted the findings of the No Probable Cause Determination.

Shawayna Hunter v. Tampa Housing Authority Development Corporation

The Board heard from P. Newton and AD Escander about the facts of the case. After consideration and a brief discussion, the Board adopted the findings of the No Probable Cause Determination.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting, which will be the annual meeting with Mayor Buckhorn, has been scheduled for Tuesday, December 12, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. at the Tampa Municipal Office Building.

ADJOURNMENT

A **motion** to adjourn the meeting was made by A. Roberts, **seconded** by S. Hubbard, and the **motion passed** unanimously. The meeting ended at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted.