

Borough of Carlisle
Human Relations Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2025
1:00 PM

Present at the meeting: Commission members Chris Kapp, Carlos Rojas, and Maddie Young. Also in attendance: Human Resource Manager Amy Berrier and Public Information Coordinator Stephanie Taylor.

The meeting was called to order by Chris Kapp at 1:02 pm.

I. Approval of Minutes

The Human Relations Commission by a vote of 3-0 approved minutes of the November 4, 2024 meeting. (Young/Rojas)

II. Announcements and Outreach Updates (Committee Members)

Commissioner Young reported that the YWCA will be hosting a lunch and learn about human trafficking for the County on April 22 and the district attorney's office will be participating.

Commissioner Kapp reported that Carlisle Pride Week will be June 14 – 20. There will be daily activities, except for June 19 when Juneteenth will be observed.

III. Discussion of Issues

There are no issues to discuss at this time.

IV. Staff Updates

Human Resources Manager Berrier congratulated Sergeant Rucinsky on the birth of his son.

Alternate commissioner Morgan Goodling's term is expiring this month. A new alternate will likely be appointed at the February 5 Council Workshop meeting.

MEI Index results were finalized and released in November 2024. Carlisle Borough scored 100 points again this year.

HR Manager Berrier announced that the Borough had been working with the Transgender American Veterans Association on a petition to secure gender-affirming care for transgender veterans. The Borough was notified in January that the petition was withdrawn due to concerns with the new administration.

V. Public Comment

Ms. Wanda Hunter asked for clarification on partial terms on the commission. Commissioner Young clarified that when a member or alternate leaves their position before the end of their term, an appointment is needed for someone to complete that unfulfilled term.

Ms. Wanda Hunter asked if the MEI score was shared with Borough Council. HR Manager Berrier responded that the Commission used to provide an annual update to Borough Council and that has not been taking place. Berrier confirmed that the results have been shared with Council despite that update not taking place. Ms. Hunter stated it would be nice for the Commission to get better coverage in the community because many people do not know it exists or what it does.

Ms. Hunter announced that the Black Arts Festival will take place on February 22 at the Vault.

She also stated that the Moving Circles organization would be hosting a Friendship Dinner at the New Life Church on the corner of E. North and E. Bedford Streets on February 4 at 6:00 pm. It is open to the public and they request that attendees bring a covered dish if they can, but it is not required. The purpose of the dinner is to bring the community together to discuss what is going on in the community and make the public aware of community resources.

Commissioner Young volunteered to contact Borough Secretary Patricia Blair to get on a future Borough Council agenda to provide an update from the commission.

Community member Elijah Day spoke on his appreciation for the commission and stated that the time of day the commission meetings are held may make it difficult for residents to attend HRC meetings. Mr. Day also asked where and how concerns should be reported.

Commissioner Kapp stated that community members can bring their concerns to the commission via a form on the Borough website.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:32 pm. (Young/Rojas)

The next meeting will be Monday, May 5, 2025 at 1:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Berrier
Human Resources/Risk Management Manager