

ARIZONA CIVIL RIGHTS ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of Public Meeting

September 13, 2019

Board Members Present

Joshua W. Carden (Chairperson)
Sandy Flynn (Member)

Staff Members Present

Rebekah Browder (Executive Director)
Vincent Sottosanti (Legal Counsel)
Tina Rohe (Staff Liaison)

Board Members Present by Telephone

Robert M. Garcia (Member) (initially present in person)
Rachel Frazier Johnson (Member)

Board Members Absent

Kathryn Hackett King (Vice-Chairperson)
Christopher St. John (Member)
Tarah L. White (Member)

a. Call to Order.

Joshua Carden called the meeting to order at 12:41 p.m. The meeting took place at 2005 North Central, Third Floor, Arizona Attorney General, Phoenix, Arizona, with the members announcing their presence.

b. Preliminary Remarks.

Joshua Carden greeted the members and said items on the agenda were going to be taken out of order.

c. Robert Garcia Resignation

Robert Garcia announced he will resign from the Board because of his new position within the State of Arizona. His resignation is effective after the November meeting.

The Board took a brief recess at 12:44 p.m. for approximately five minutes to allow Robert Garcia to leave the building and call in.

d. Call to the Public.

Darrel Christensen from Ability 360, present by telephone, addressed the Board. He informed the Board about the difficulties of disabled people getting affordable and accessible housing. He highlighted the need for outreach and education to property managers regarding accommodations for emotional support animals and service animals. He also mentioned disability discrimination in employment.

e. Approval of Meeting Minutes of June 14, 2019.

Joshua Carden moved to approve the meeting minutes from June 14, 2019. Robert Garcia seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

f. Division Report (Rebekah Browder).

Ms. Browder informed the Board of Vincent Sottosanti's promotion to Unit Chief. She updated the Board on current litigation in the Division. Further, she gave the Board highlights of the

number of complaints received in the various categories of discrimination seen in Fiscal Year 2019.

g. Law Enforcement Survey.

Joshua Carden encouraged the Board to review the survey responses. He also suggested that a few members get together for work sessions and the need to summarize the survey. Mr. Carden plans to contact Rebekah Browder and Tina Rohe to set up new work session dates for the Board.

h. Update on Phoenix Housing Department Homelessness Letter Response.

Rachel Frazier Johnson will follow up with Tamyra Spendley regarding her plan to address the Board on October 11, 2019.

i. Status of New Project Ideas.

The following Board project ideas were discussed:

1. Small Business Sexual Harassment Training.
2. Human/Sex Trafficking on a grass-roots level.
3. Invite members of the public to discuss their experiences in a forum-type setting.
4. Assistance/service animals in housing.
5. Disability discrimination in employment.
6. Discussion was held about the continuing issues with encounters between the public and members of Law Enforcement.
7. Legislative Proposal - Kathryn Hackett King, Rachel Frazier Johnson, and Tarah White will follow up with the legislative lobbyist on the proposal.

j. Call to the Board – Current Events Summary.

Ms. Browder informed the Board of the Arizona Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights upcoming topic of Subminimum Wages for People with Disabilities. The Division is also continuing to do outreach regarding emotional support animals and service animals in housing.

k. Adjournment .

There being no other announcements or matters, Rachel Frazier Johnson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:14 p.m., Sandy Flynn seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned by unanimous vote.

#8213393