

ERIE COUNTY FAIR HOUSING  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday, February 12, 2019 10am

Erie County Rath Building – Department of Environment & Planning  
95 Franklin Street, Buffalo NY 14202

Board Attendees:

Cheryl Andolino – Belmont  
Sharon Ciminelli – BNAR  
Pamela Lanich – WNY Law Center  
Karen Rybicki – ECDSS (Chair)

Other Attendees:

Jennifer Beltre – Erie County Fair Housing Officer (DEP)  
Paul D’Orlando – DEP  
Kristen Walder – Erie County Attorney’s Office  
Daniel Corbitt – Housing Opportunities Made Equal (HOME)

1. Introductions All
  - a. Update on 5<sup>th</sup> Board Member appointment: Karen King will be appointed to the title of Commissioner of Public Advocacy. Once this appointment is made, a letter will be sent to the Legislature appointing her to the Board.
2. Approval of Minutes from meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup> **(VOTE)**
  - a. Motion to approve – Karen Rybicki; 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sharon Ciminelli; Unanimous approval
3. Board Officer Appointments **(VOTE)**
  - a. Vice-Chair: Nomination of Cheryl Andolino; Motion to approve nominee – Karen Rybicki; 2<sup>nd</sup> – Pamela Lanich; Unanimous approval
  - b. Secretary: Nomination of Pamela Lanich; Motion to approve nominee – Karen Rybicki; 2<sup>nd</sup> – Cheryl Andolino; Unanimous approval
  - c. Other officers as deemed necessary: N/A
4. Approval of Bylaws **(VOTE)**

- a. Discussed the State's Committee on Open Government's advisory opinion regarding questions on whether or not this board would be subject to Open Meeting's Law requirements
- b. Motion to approve with changes discussed – Karen Rybicki; 2<sup>nd</sup> – Cheryl Andolino; Unanimous approval

5. Status of complaints from HOME

Dan Corbitt

- a. Working with an NLS client re: DSS cash payments
- b. So far, HOME has received about 3-4 SOI complaints (outside the City of Buffalo and Towns of Hamburg and W. Seneca). Hoping for conciliation.
- c. If HOME determines Probable Cause, they will send a detailed form to Jennifer Beltre (DEP) who will schedule a Hearing within 30 days and post a notice on the website ([erie.gov/fairhousing](http://erie.gov/fairhousing)).

6. Proposed quarterly meeting schedule 2019: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 10am (February 12, May 14<sup>th</sup>, August 13<sup>th</sup>, November 12<sup>th</sup>)

- a. Quarterly meeting schedule will be posted on the website and sent to everyone's outlook calendar.
- b. A placeholder will be reserved for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 11am for Hearings.

Meeting adjourned: 11:04am

Minutes submitted by Jennifer Beltre on 2/14/2019

Next Quarterly Meeting: May 14<sup>th</sup> at 10am