COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Barnstable, ss.

At a special meeting of the Barnstable County Board of Regional Commissioners, held in the Superior Courthouse in Barnstable, on the third day of October, A.D. 2018

**Board Regional Commissioners:**

Ronald R. Beaty Present
Leo G. Cakounes Present
Mary Pat Flynn Absent

**Assembly of Delegates Representatives:**

Brian O’Malley Provincetown Delegate
Linda Zuern Bourne Delegate

**Staff Present:**

Steve Tebo Interim Assistant County Administrator/Director,
Juatyna Marczak Facilities Human Resources Director, Administration
Owen Fletcher Executive Assistant, Administration
Beth Albert Director, Human Services

**Human Rights Commission Representatives:**

Rev. Dr. Kate Epperly Vice Chair
Dave Schropefer Commissioner

**Others:**

G. Thomas Ryan Cape Cod Council of Churches
1. Call to Order

Chairman Cakounes called the meeting to order at 1:05 A.M.

2. General Business

   a. Workshop and discussion on a new proposed ordinance regarding Barnstable County Human Rights Commission (HRC)

Chairman Cakounes explained his intent to draft a new ordinance. The meeting participants engaged in a lengthy discussion regarding whether the current HRC Commissioners are currently engaged in mediation. Chairman Cakounes noted that the County’s insurance would not cover such activities. Dr. Epperly explained that though she requested that the County help her to obtain training as a mediator, HRC commissioners were not currently engaged in formal mediation.

The Board engaged in a discussion regarding previous issues with maintaining a volunteer coordinator position. Chairman Cakounes explained that such a coordinator is a County Employee and could only be supervised by the County Administrator. He also explained that County staff advised that the position should not be filled until an ordinance was drafted that could provide more clarity regarding what the duties of that employees would be.

Dr. Epperly and Mr. Schropefer argued that they could not provide any thoughts on a proposed ordinance until the HRC’s Chair, Alan Milsted, returned from a trip abroad. They also noted that there was no quorum at the last HRC meeting and they were not authorized to speak as representatives of the HRC.

Chairman Cakounes stressed that this process must continue, but nothing binding would be decided until a lengthy process occurred. He also highlighted that it was his opinion as one Commissioner that the HRC should be transitioned to a 501(c)(3) away from the County.

He intended to have multiple workshop meetings to draft a proposed ordinance. That ordinance would then be released to the public, press and HRC for comment. Then, it would go to the Board of Commissioners and the Assembly of Delegates for their consideration.

Dr. Epperly expressed her great frustration that in her opinion the Board was impeding the HRC’s ability to conduct its programs. She argued that the Chair had convened the meeting despite the HRC’s request to postpone it and they were participating under duress.

Chairman Cakounes and Commissioner Beaty both assured he that the Board did not intend to do so, had done nothing to do so, and regretted that Dr. Epperly had this impression. After continued discussion on this issue, Dr. Epperly left the meeting.
Chairman Cakounes agreed to postpone his plans for continued meetings until after the HRC could reconvene in the beginning of November.

11. Adjournment

_Barnstable, ss. at 10:57 A.M. on this third day of October A.D. 2018, Commissioner Beaty made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Commissioner Flynn, approved 3-0-0_

List of Documents:

- Notes of Chairman Cakounes on a proposed new Human Rights Commission Ordinance
Approved, Board of Regional Commissioners:

Leo G. Cakounes, Chair
Ronald R. Beaty, Vice-Chair
Mary Pat Flynn, Commissioner

10-24-18
Date

The foregoing records have been read and approved, October 25, 2018.

A true copy, attest:

Janice O’Connell, Regional Clerk