

City of Buffalo Living Wage Commission

Minutes: Meeting February 12, 2019

Commissioners Present: Merle Showers, Erin Hatton, Bob Mahoney, Sharon Ivey, Kelly Dodd
Others Present: Sam Magavern, Elizabeth Schlant

1. Meeting with the City's budget office regarding rate change proposal, as suggested by Councilmember Fontana
 - a. Erin will ask Finance Commissioner Donna Estrich what she thinks the budget implications would be for the city
 - b. City may have to give some of its employees raises, such as crossing guards, sanitation workers, interns (excepting Mayor's summer internship program, which is exempt).
 - c. City could calculate the amount the raises would cost
 - d. Vendors might seek to increase how much they charge the city or decrease how much they pay the city
2. Anna Falicov working on getting the city's payroll information for workers covered by the law
3. Recap of presentation to Council
 - a. CM Fontana had questions about budget impact on city and about whether employers might cut jobs/hours. (Sam responded that economic research shows that moderate minimum wage or living wage increases do not tend to lead to cuts in jobs or hours).
 - b. CM Feroleto asked about how it would affect the separate rate for tipped workers
4. Bob Mahoney has begun attempting to talk to NFTA board and common council about decreasing bus costs for low-wage workers
5. Merle: Task is to try to get the change in the living wage rate
 - a. Talk to legislators
 - i. Divide up members of the common council and asking them to support it, sponsor, or cosponsor it
 - ii. Each commission member should understand the reasoning behind the increase and the single rate
 - iii. Reach out this week from 2/12 for an appointment, reach out within a month to let everyone know how the meeting went
 1. Wyatt - Merle
 2. Rivera - Kelly, Erin
 3. Scanlon - Bob
 4. Pridgen - Sharon
 5. Feroleto - Sam
 6. Fontana - Kelly
 7. Franczyk - Merle
 8. Golombek - Penny
 9. Wingo - Sharon