



LEHIGH COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

AGENDA

March 10, 2026

Preliminary Agenda Items

- Call to order
- Roll call
- Announce meeting is recorded for public record and that Commissioners' cameras should be turned on for roll call and whenever there is a vote
- Citizen's Input on Agenda Items

Old Business

- Accept minutes from the previous meeting
- More Human Relations Ordinance passages throughout the area
- Training update
- Logo update
- Update on complaints that have been brought forth
- MOU with Allentown on HRC
- Update from the LCHRC Rules and Procedures Committee

New Business

- Vote on attached motion to approve Decorum Policy

Closing Agenda Items

- Citizen's Input (on Non-Agenda items)
- LCHRC announcements
- Motion to adjourn

Policy for Decorum at Human Relations Commission Meetings

I. Purpose and Intent

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all Commission meetings, both in person and virtual, are conducted in a manner that is respectful, productive, and transparent. While robust debate is encouraged, it must be balanced with the need for order and the efficient conduct of public business.

II. General Conduct Expectations

Participants must always maintain a respectful environment.

Participants must:

- Speak respectfully and avoid interrupting others.
- Refrain from personal attacks, harassment, or discriminatory remarks.
- Follow the Chair's instructions regarding speaking in order and time limits if established.

Participants should join the meeting on time and ensure their display name and pronouns clearly identify them.

III. Audio and Video Expectations

Keep microphones muted until allowed to speak. Background noise should be minimized.

Cameras shall be on when a member of the Commission is speaking or presenting.

IV. Public Comment Rules and Procedures

- The Commission values public input. To ensure everyone has a chance to be heard, the following rules apply:
- Speakers must sign in prior to the start of the meeting and state their name and residency for the record.
- Each speaker is typically allotted three (3) minutes. Please wrap up when your time expires.
- All remarks must be directed to the Commission as a whole through the Chair, not to individual members, staff, or other audience members.
- Comments should remain germane to the items on the agenda or within the Commission's legal jurisdiction.
- Members of the public may not bring up or discuss a discrimination complaint they wish to file, or on a discrimination complaint that is actively being

investigated or adjudicated because it could influence the Commission or taint the complaint resolution process. Those wishing to discuss or file a complaint should do so using the Commission’s complaint form. A statement to this effect should be included in the beginning of the publicly posted agenda.

V. Disruptions

The Chair may:

- Mute persons who are disruptive or who do not adhere to the time limits for speaking
- Disable video for participants displaying inappropriate content
- Lock the meeting or recess the meeting if participants are out of order and do not respond to the Chair.

VI. Rules for Commissioners

As the elected/appointed leaders of the community, Commissioners are expected to set the standard for professional conduct.

- Recognition by the Chair: Commissioners shall speak only after being recognized by the Presiding Officer (the Chair).
- Civil Discourse: Arguments should focus on the merits of the policy or issue at hand, not on the personalities or motives of other Commissioners, staff, or the public.
- Active Listening: Avoid sidebar conversations or electronic distractions while others are speaking.
- Adherence to Order: Commissioners must abide by the Chair’s rulings regarding the order of business and the relevance of comments.

VII. Prohibited Conduct (All Participants)

To maintain a safe and productive environment, the following are strictly prohibited:

PROHIBITED BEHAVIOR	DESCRIPTION
Personal Attacks	Defamatory, profane, or threatening language directed at any commissioner, staff, or member of the public
Outbursts	Clapping, cheering, booing, or heckling from the gallery
Disruption	Standing in aisles, waving signs that obstruct views or take up the video screen without permission, or making

	loud noises which interfere with the conduct of the meeting
Repetition	Repeatedly making the point that has been previously expressed by other speakers

VIII. Enforcement

The Presiding Officer is responsible for maintaining order.

1. **Warning:** The Chair will issue a verbal warning to any person violating these rules.
2. **Recess:** If order is not restored, the Chair may call a brief recess.
3. **Removal:** Persons who continue to disrupt the meeting after a warning may be asked to leave the meeting.

DRAFT

Motion for the March 10, 2026 meeting of the Lehigh County Human Relations Commission

I move to approve the Decorum Policy for the Lehigh County Human Relations Commission as presented by the Procedures Committee.