

ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
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HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Minutes-February 14, 2019 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Chair Roland Watkins. The following committee members were present: Helen Connolly, Susie Lee, Jessica Briatico, Kiley Tibbetts, Walter Charles Sargent, Tony Sanders, Marilyn Calix, Paul Lewis, Latoya Asia, and Carole Lieber. Sukari Pinnock–Fitts was absent. Anna Maynard, Sandra Perez and Executive Director Gurjit Chima were present from the Office of Human Rights. Bobby Fisher, a member of the public, was present for the appeal hearing portion of the meeting which commenced at 7:30pm.

Mr. Roland welcomed those in attendance. Subsequent to this, the meeting proceeded as follows:

- I. The Minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as amended and approved.
- II. Ms. Briatico announced that she was moving out of state for personal reasons and that this would be her last Human Rights Commission (HRC) meeting.
- III. The Commissioners renewed their requests for information related to inquiries the Office refers to other departments and/or agencies. Ms. Chima explained that the Office stopped keeping track of referrals by hard copy prior to her commencement in her current position due to the use of a new database/system but that the Office try to see if the system/database could be used to capture that information. She indicated this may take some time.
- IV. Ms. Chima updated Commissioners on the status of the barrier analysis work, indicating the scope of the work was currently in review by procurement.
- V. Mr. Watkins shared that the County Attorney would attend the next meeting in March to share further information on FOIA requests and asked that

Commissioners send him any questions for the County Attorney by February 25, 2019.

- VI. Mr. Watkins reminded all Commissioners to submit their financial disclosure forms to the County Clerk, indicating that Commissioners could not serve on the HRC if they did not submit the forms.
- VII. Mr. Sanders spoke on behalf of Ms. Pinnock-Fitts on the upcoming HRC event on aging on April 13, 2019. He shared that a flyer was created for the event.
- VIII. Mr. Tibbetts shared the names of the newly selected members of the EEO Standing Committee as follows: Ms. Pinnock-Fitts, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Sargent. Mr. Tibbetts indicated that the committee would also have three (3) employee members appointed by the County Manager and would share their names as soon as Ms. Chima shared the information. He further shared that the EEO Standing Committee would follow-up on initiatives from last year.
- IX. Mr. Watkins shared that Mr. Lewis would serve as the new chair for the James B. Hunter event. Ms. Lee, the former event chair, offered to share templates and information with Mr. Lewis.
- X. Mr. Watkins discussed the need for a chair for the HRC Survey Task Force and asked for a volunteer.
- XI. Logistics and outstanding tasks for the Tiffany Jocelyn event was discussed by commissioners. Mr. Tibbetts indicated he would look into catering. A suggestion was made that the Commissioners should ensure there is no other event going on at the same time to reduce interruptions/nose. Mr. Watkins reiterated the need to advertise the event in a timely manner. Mr. Watkins asked Mr. Sanders to share the flyer with the Commission on Aging and to send it to all Commissioners. He also asked if the County could advertise the event on its television stations. Mr. Watkins thanked Ms. Perez for her assistance in obtaining the venue for the event.
- XII. Ms. Lee indicated that Mr. Raul Torres said “hello” to commissioners and is serving as Prince William County’s Office of Human Rights Director.
- XIII. Ms. Lieber shared that former HRC chair Carlos Velasquez said “hello” to commissioners.

- XIV. Mr. Watkins requested a volunteer to serve as a representative for HRC on an association of Human Rights Commissions. Ms. Lieber volunteered for the role.
- XV. The Commission adjourned the meeting to commence a closed hearing on Ms. Bobby Fisher's appeal to the HRC.