

June 10, 2021,

Board Chambers

## **Human Rights Commission**

## **MINUTES**

### **Chair**

**Curtis O. Porter**

### **Vice Chair**

**Ramunda Young**

### **Parliamentarian**

**Evelyn BruMar**

### **Members**

**William Johnston**

**Mohammad Usman**

**Dr. Susan Holly**

**Dr. Erika Laos**

**Tonya James**

**LaTonsha "LT" Pridgen**

**Present:** Commissioners Curtis Porter, Ramunda Young, Erika Laos, William Johnston, Evelyn BruMar, Tonya James, La Tonsha Pridgen (LT), Director Raul Torres, Manager Shelia Venning, and five citizens. Chair Curtis Porter called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

### **Citizens Time**

- None

### **Old Business**

- Minutes of May 13, 2021 were approved (BruMar-moved/Johnston-seconded).

### **New Business**

Presentation (1)

- LGBTQ+ Pride Month presentation by Commissioner Evelyn BruMar & Nicole Campa of P-Flag.
- Juneteenth Resolution was approved (James-moved/ Pridgen – seconded) unanimous.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Student Leadership Council**

- The new Outreach & Education Coordinator will start her employment on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Recruitment for the upcoming SLC cohort will begin around August.

#### **Unity in the Community**

- No Updates

- Unity in the Community is a membership organization. HRC does not pay membership dues, but as individuals, you can if you wish. They are an interfaith organization dealing with human and civil rights issues for over 20 years.

#### **VAHR Chair Porter reporting:**

- Second annual Zoom VAHR conference. It had participation from all jurisdictions.
- I need to find a contact for Richmond to bring them into the VAHR.
- We adopted new bylaws for the VAHR.
- All officers remained the same for the upcoming year, except for the Secretary.
  - Curtis Porter – President
  - Bryan Hudson - Vice President
  - Sue Lewis – Parliamentarian
  - Carol Lieber – Treasurer
- All communities are addressing Civilian Review Boards
- VAHR established a structure for dues for each Commission and individuals. It will be \$250.00 per Commission and \$25.00 for individuals. No dues are to be paid this year. Next fiscal year, dues to be paid by July 1, 2022.

#### **Racial Social Justice Commission (RSJC) Chair Porter reporting:**

- The next meeting will be held on June 17, 2021.
- The chair is a member of the Policing Committee, looking at the Use of Force & Recruitment issues.

#### **Director's Report**

- The Commission approved the conciliation agreement.
- We hired an Outreach & Education Coordinator who will start next Monday. We have made an offer to a candidate for the Administrative Specialist vacant position.

#### **COMMISSIONER'S TIME**

**Tonya James** – A lot of Juneteenth activities are going on this weekend. One will be the Bates Town Road renaming and the Town of Dumfries Juneteenth Parade.

**Evelyn BruMar** – Will miss Commissioner Pridgen. Updated the Commission on Historical dates for Pride month.

**Ramunda Young** – Will miss Commissioner Pridgen. Asked for an update on the previous month's presentation to Save Historic Thoroughfare and the jail board meeting.

**William Johnston** – Asked if there was any movement to commemorate the ratification of the 13th amendment?

**LaTonsha Pridgen (LT)** – Thanked Commissioner BruMar for the LGBTQ+ presentation & Commissioner Young for the Juneteenth Resolution. Encouraged participation in the Town of Dumfries Inaugural Juneteenth – half-mile Walking Parade. Announced her resignation from the Commission effective immediately due to personal reasons.

**Erika Laos** – Thanked Commissioner Pridgen for her service on the Commission and said that she would be missed. Thanked Ms. Campos and Commissioner BruMar for their presentation. Encourage Commissioners to promote the RSJC listening sessions.

**Chair Porter –**

- Encouraged participation in the renaming of the Bates Town Road and asked commissioners to go to the Prince William Forest Park website to get the History of Bates Town and Hickory Ridge.
- Received a message from a Fraternity Brother to let him know that slavery was not that long ago.
- Told Commission Pridgen that she would be missed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

**ACTIONABLE ITEMS**

| ACTION | RESPONSIBLE PERSON | DUE DATE | STATUS |
|--------|--------------------|----------|--------|
|        |                    |          |        |

**PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
 CHARGES AND OUTCOMES FOR May 2021**

|                             | Case Closures | Cases Opened | Inventory |
|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------|
| <b>Employment</b>           | 3             | 2            |           |
| <b>Housing</b>              |               |              |           |
| <b>Public Accommodation</b> |               |              |           |
| <b>Education</b>            |               |              |           |
| <b>Credit</b>               |               |              |           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                |               |              | 37        |