

MOTION: Porter

**February 9, 2023
Regular Meeting
HRC RES 23-01**

SECOND: Baldwin

RE: A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE, AFFIRM AND RECOGNIZE BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2023.

ACTION:

WHEREAS, during Black History Month, we celebrate the vast contributions of African Americans to our Nation's history and identity; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month grew out of the establishment, in 1926, of Negro History Week by Dr. Carter G. Woodson a Virginian, and the Association for the Study of African American Life and History; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme for Black History Month, "Black Resistance", takes a look at how African-Americans have fought repression from late August, 1619, when 20-30 enslaved Africans landed at Point Comfort, today's Fort Monroe in Hampton, Virginia

WHEREAS, from escaping the plantation, to the rise out of poverty and the struggle for equal housing and education to the struggle for voting rights, the resistance lives on even into the 21st century

WHEREAS, Black resistance was epitomized in sport stars like Jesse Owens (who brought even the Nazi regime down a notch with his stunning triumph during the 1936 Olympics).

WHEREAS, in pop culture, singer Billie Holiday kept the black struggle in the national spotlight with her bestselling hit, "Strange Fruit"

WHEREAS, Under the strong leadership of Martin Luther King, Jr., the battle for equal rights extended to not only blacks but for other minorities and the white working poor. Helping to finally end the last vestiges of Jim Crow, the Civil Rights Movement also gave impetus to inclusion of blacks in the political process that ultimately resulted in the election of the first black US President in 2008.

WHEREAS, African Americans have been a significant piece of the fabric of Prince William County since the 1600's, both enslaved and free

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince William County Human Rights Commission recognizes through this resolution the Month of February 2023 as Black History Month in Prince William County and encourage all residents to honor and celebrate Black history and culture in our County.

Votes:

Ayes: Porter, Ginoba, Pratter, Muz, and Baldwin

Nays: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent from the meeting: Young, BruMar, Laos, and Johnston

ATTEST: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large loop on the left and a series of connected strokes extending to the right.

Executive Director