



Raul Torres
Executive Director

December 14, 2023,

Minutes of November 9, 2023
Human Rights Commission
Kelly Leadership Bldg., Room 2002-2004 2nd Floor

Human Rights Commission
Curtis Porter, Chairman
Evelyn BruMar, Vice Chair
Ramunda Young, Parliamentarian
William A. Johnston, III
Dr. Erika Laos
Padreus D. Pratter
Aaron Muz
Benjamin Baldwin
Victor L. Ginoba, Jr.

MINUTES

Chair

Curtis O. Porter

Vice Chair

Evelyn BruMar

Parliamentarian

Ramunda Young

Members

William Johnston

Dr. Erika Laos

Padreus D. Pratter

Aaron Muz

Benjamin Baldwin

Victor L. Ginoba, Jr.

Present: Commissioners William Johnston, Benjamin Baldwin, Padreus Pratter, Aaron Muz, Vice Chair Evelyn BruMar, Chairman Curtis Porter, Director Raul Torres, Manager Shelia Venning, and Administrative Specialist Tiffany Jones.

Chair Porter called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm.

Citizens Time

- 1 citizen was present.

Old Business

- Minutes of November 9, 2023, meeting, was approved (Johnston moved/Baldwin-second)

New Business

- Universal Human Rights Day (UHRD) - will be held on January 13, 2024, at 10am in the Board Chambers of the McCort Building.
 - This year's theme recognizes the 70th anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education's historic ruling.
 - Councilman Ralph Smith, Manassas City Governing body, agreed to be the keynote speaker.
 - Notifications and flyers will go out to the community on Monday November 13th.

30 Years of Eliminating Discrimination and Establishing Equal Opportunity

- The nomination period closes December 9th.
- The UHRD Committee will recommend the winners and present them to the full commission for a final vote at the December meeting.

Committee Reports

Unity in the Community

- Unity in the community and NAACP held a screening and discussion on antisemitism, *Repairing the World: Stories from the Tree of Life*, from Not in our Town on October 15, 2023, at 3pm, Manassas Church of the Brethren, 10047 Nokesville Road, Manassas, VA.

VAHR

- VAHR held their final conference, October 21, 2023, at the Wyndham Virginia Beach Oceanfront Hotel. About 16 people from various commissions were in attendance.
- Awards were given for Visionary and Staff Person of the Year. Among the recipients, Shelia Venning, PWC Human Rights Manager, for Staff Person of the Year and Chair, Curtis Porter for his appreciation and leadership.
- All commissioners have agreed to stay in contact and continue to help each other.
- VAHR closed their doors after 28 years of service. The remaining funds will be donated to the ACLU of Virginia.

Human Rights Student Leadership Council

- HRSLC held their first session titled “Youth at Work – Know your Rights”, on November 6th, from 4:30- 6pm. This session was on Equal Employment. The presenter was Monica Colunga, Program Analyst with the US EEOC.
- Session 2 will be held January 4, 2024. The session will be based on Fair Housing.

Racial and Social Justice Commission (RSJC)

- The RSJC did not meet in November due to lack of quorum.
- The commission has agreed to have quarterly meetings, starting in December 2023.

Director's Report

- The Human Rights office is currently working on the Work Plan for 2024. It will be distributed to the commission and staff for feedback.
- The Commission held a Community Dialogue on Antisemitism, on October 23, 2023, at the Ferlazzo Building. From this dialogue, the office has received 1 complaint. This was one of many community dialogues we want to hold in the future.

- Shelia Venning, Manager for Human Rights, met with Rabbi Goldstien, who agreed to post the office outreach video, have our brochure on display and distribute our information in her newsletter.
- In December the HRO will be hosting a webinar on Mental Health in the Workplace.
- The next quarterly HRO newsletter will focus on Mental Health. This will be distributed after the webinar.
- The HRO office has been advised by EEOC that they will be auditing some of our cases as part of the certification process for becoming a certified FEPA.

COMMISSIONER'S TIME

Aaron Muz – Happy holiday.

William Johnston – Thanks to Chair Porter for writing and releasing the statement on antisemitism.

Bejamin Baldwin – Happy 248 Birthday to the Marine Corp.

Padreus Pratter – PWCPS has now added mental health language to their legislative documents.

Evelyn BruMar – Thank you to our veterans, spouses, and family. She suggested creating a display to recognize the resolutions passed by the commission.

Curtis Porter – Thank you to the veterans, spouses, and families.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm.

ACTIONABLE ITEMS

	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	DUE DATE	STATUS
List of all past UHRD winners	Tiffany Jones	11/30/2023	Completed 11/15/2023

CHARGES AND OUTCOMES FOR NOVEMBER 2023

	Case Closures	Cases Opened	Inventory
Employment	1	3	
Housing		1	
Public Accommodation		1	
Education			
Credit			
TOTAL			20