



Raul Torres  
Executive Director

May 9, 2024,

Minutes of April 11, 2024  
Human Rights Commission  
J McCoart Building – Board Chambers

**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 Benjamin Baldwin, Padreus Pratter, Victor Ginoba, William Johnston, Vice Chair Evelyn BruMar, Chairman Curtis Porter, Director Raul Torres, Assistant Director Shelia Venning, and Administrative Specialist Tiffany Jones.

Chair Porter called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm.

**Citizens Time**

- There were no citizens present at the meeting.

**Old Business**

- The minutes of the March 14, 2024, meeting were approved (Baldwin moved/BruMar-second)

**New Business**

- A motion to go into a closed session was presented, duly seconded, and approved.
  - During the closed session, County Attorney Michelle Robl advised the Commission on legal matters.
  - The Commission voted on a motion to return to open session, which was approved.
  - The Commission certified that the matter was discussed in a closed session where the County Attorney provided legal advice.
- Resolution to Declare, Affirm, and Recognize the month of April of 2024 as Arab American Heritage Month (Ginoba moved/Baldwin second) Resolution passed 5/0, 4 absent.

- Resolution to Declare, Affirm, and Recognize the month of May of 2024 as Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Month (Baldwin moved/Ginoba second) Resolution passed 6/0, 3 absent.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Unity in the Community**

- Unity in the Community hosted PWC Police Chief Peter Newsham at their March 24, 2024, meeting at Little Union Baptist Church. Chief Newsham greeted and answered questions from the community.

### **Human Rights Student Leadership Council**

- Graduation for Cohort 8 was held on April 4, 2024, at 6 pm in the auditorium of the Ferlazzo Building. The graduation was well attended.
- We will start recruiting students for Cohort 9 in the fall of 2024.

### **Jail Board**

- The Jail Board meeting was held on March 20, 2024. The Jail can hold 871 inmates and 1,320 if double-bunked. During March, the ADC averaged about 522 inmates.
- ADC currently has a total of 74 job vacancies.
- There have been no reported Covid cases among inmates or staff.

### **Racial Social Justice Committee**

- RSJC met in March of 2024. Two new commissioners were reappointed to serve on the Commission. Chris Frederick is the new Vice Chair.
- RSJC is in the process of revising the report that was previously submitted to the Board.
- The next meeting of the RSJC is scheduled for June 20, 2024, at 6:30 pm in the Board Chambers of the McCoart Building.

### **Director's Report**

- Effective March 1, Shelia Venning was promoted to Assistant Director of the Human Rights Office.
- The Human Rights Commission will partner with the Muslim community to host a community dialogue on June 26, 2024, in the Auditorium of the Ferlazzo Building.

## COMMISSIONER'S TIME

**William Johnston** – Nothing to report.

**Victor Ginoba** – Nothing to report.

**Benjamin Baldwin** – Congratulations to the graduates of the Student Leadership Council and staff for their hard work.

**Padreus Pratter** – Congratulations to the graduates of the SLC Cohort 8. Congrats to Shelia Venning on her promotion.

**Evelyn BruMar** – Casa BruMar will open the first LGBTQ office in Prince William County. The office will be located next to the Prince William Hospital.

**Curtis Porter** – Congratulations to the graduates of the SLC and the staff for their hard work.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8.37 pm.**

### **ACTIONABLE ITEMS**

	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	DUE DATE	STATUS

**PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
CHARGES AND OUTCOMES FOR APRIL 2024**

	<b>Case Closures</b>	<b>Cases Opened</b>	<b>Inventory</b>
<b>Employment</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Housing</b>			
<b>Public Accommodation</b>			
<b>Education</b>			
<b>Credit</b>			
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>22</b>