

Prince George's County Human Rights Commission

Monday, July 26, 2021

Zoom Meeting of the
Prince George's County
Human Rights Commission

ATTENDEES:

Commissioners:

Charlene Proctor, Chair
Wade Woolfolk, Secretary
Nathaniel Bryant
Adonna Bannister Green
Llamilet Gutierrez
Wendi Howard
Ademola Oduyebo
Andrea Price-Carter
Joseph Reed
Felicia Lasley Sadler

Keisha Garner, Counsel to the Commission

Excused:

Renée Battle-Brooks
Executive Director

Sylvia Johnson

Staff:

Jose Villegas
Senior Investigator

Kyla Hanington
Clerk to the Commission

Guests:

Keith Merkey – MCCR

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order – The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm and welcomed guest Keith Merkey from the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights.
2. Adopt Agenda – Hearing no corrections, the agenda is adopted as distributed.
3. Approval of Minutes of the **June 28, 2021** meeting. The minutes were adopted as written with a noted change.
4. **REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

The Chair noted that it was her first meeting as Chair of the Human Rights Commission. She said that she was enthusiastic of the work of the Commission and with working with

the Commissioners, the Executive Director, Counsel, Clerk, and the residents and stakeholders of the Prince George's County. She announced that she had appointed Commissioner Sadler as Acting Vice-Chair until elections can be held in October. Along with Secretary Woolfolk, they are the acting executive board of the Commission.

5. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director was absent and Jose Villegas spoke on her behalf. He shared that the office held a Unity Rally in Fort Washington in response to a hate crime incident in the County and said that the Clerk and the Executive Director did an excellent job putting together the event on short notice. There were more than 30 people in attendance. He said that the Executive Director would have more updates in the August meeting.

6. CASES SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

HRC Charge No.: HRC19-0306
EEOC Charge No.: 531-2018-01416

Carisia Dyson v Staffing Etc.
(Investigator V'Hesspa Glenn)

Panel Members: Acting Vice-Chair Sadler as Panel Chair, Commissioner Howard, Commissioner Oduyebo; Commissioner Johnson as alternate.

The first two nights of public hearing in this matter were held on May 20, 2021 and June 14, 2021. Three additional nights have been scheduled for August 16, 17, and 18, 2021.

FEPA Charge No.: HRC20-0322
EEOC Case No.: 531-2020-00697

Reddick v DC Tours & Transportation

Panel members: Secretary Woolfolk as Panel Chair, Commissioner Oduyebo, Commissioner Green; Chair Proctor as alternate.

A scheduling order for this matter was issued with hearing dates set for April 7 and 12, 2021. This matter was re-scheduled and four nights of public hearing were held: April 29, 2021; May 6, 2021; May 10, 2021; and June 8, 2021. The Panel has 180 days to reach a decision following receipt of the final transcript in the matter.

HRC Case No.: HRC20-0304
EEOC Charge No.: 531-2019-02276

Kheni Wells v Board of Education of Prince George's County
(Investigator V'Hesspa Glenn)

Panel members: Commissioner Howard as Panel Chair, Commissioner Bryant, Commissioner Johnson; Commissioner Gutierrez as alternate.

This matter was scheduled for June 22 and 23, 2021. A settlement in this matter is pending and the public hearing has been canceled.

HRC Case No.: HRC20-0401

EEOC Charge No.: 12H-2020-00017

DeMornai Blackwell v City of Mount Rainier

(Investigator Caitlin Mohler)

Panel members are: Commissioner Price-Carter as Panel Chair, Commissioner Bryant, Commissioner Howard; Commissioner Reed as alternate.

Commissioner Johnson recused herself from this matter. This case is scheduled for public hearing September 21 and September 22, 2021.

7. **ATTENDANCE RECORD** – Attached

8. **NEW BUSINESS** - NONE

9. **OLD BUSINESS** - NONE

10. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

a. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for August 23, 2021.

11. **CLOSED SESSION**

The Commission moved to Closed session to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice and to comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter.

Upon return from Closed session, Secretary Woolfolk reported:

HRC Case No: HRC20-1207

The Executive Director's decision was upheld and the case shall stand dismissed.

HRC Case No: HRC20-0309

EEOC Charge No: 531-2019-02881

The Executive Director's decision was overruled and the case remanded for further findings of fact.

12. **ADJOURNMENT** – 7:05 pm

Wade A. Woolfolk

Commissioner Woolfolk
Secretary