

Prince George's County Human Rights Commission

Monday, January 24, 2022

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

ATTENDEES:

Commissioners:

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

Keisha Garner, Counsel to the Commission

Excused:

Llamilet Gutierrez

Staff:

Renée Battle-Brooks
Executive Director

Kyla Hanington
Clerk to the Commission

Jose Villegas
Senior Investigator

Public:

See attachment for attendees

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order – The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and welcomed numerous members of the public in attendance this evening.
2. Adopt Agenda – The Chair reviewed the agenda. Hearing no corrections or objections, the agenda was adopted as distributed.
3. Approval of Minutes of the **November 22, 2021** meeting – There were two corrections. The minutes were adopted with the noted changes.
4. **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

The Chair welcomed the Commissioners for the New Year and shared words from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, reflecting on the recent Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday, his ongoing legacy, and how his words and efforts continue to give shape to our lives and the work of the Commission.

5. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director noted that all new legislation was now in place. She reviewed events that had taken place and provided an update for some of the upcoming events for the next month, including an interfaith human trafficking event and an event in partnership with the Rumi Forum and PGCMLS in honor of World Interfaith Harmony Week. She reminded attendees of the ongoing Prince George’s County Reads Program focusing on the book “A Question of Freedom” and invited attendees to join in on the many upcoming events.

6. CASES SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING - NONE

7. CASE STATUS UPDATE

HRC Charge No.: HRC19-0306

EEOC Charge No.: 531-2018-01416

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

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

Five nights of public hearing in this matter were held on May 20, June 14, August 16, 17, and 18, 2021. The Panel has 180 days to reach a decision following receipt of the final transcript in this matter.

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.

Four nights of public hearing in this matter were held on April 29, May 6, May 10, and June 8, 2021. A final decision and proposed order was before the full Commission in Closed session.

Upon return from Closed session, Secretary Woolfolk reported that the Commission, by unanimous vote, agreed with the recommendation of the Panel and adopted the opinion as stated. The Chair added that the opinion and order will be issued by close of business Tuesday, January 25, 2022.

8. APPEAL HEARING

Below is an update of petitions for judicial review of Commission decisions before the Circuit Court of Prince George’s County.

Henry Lewis v Board of Education of Prince George’s County

HRC Case No.: HRC17-0809

This matter went to Public Hearing before the Human Relations Commission.

9. **ATTENDANCE RECORD** – Attached

10. **NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Howard brought up a new business item but then determined it was best to review with Counsel in closed session and, if appropriate, to then bring to open session afterwards.

11. **OLD BUSINESS - NONE**

12. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for February 28, 2022.

13. **CLOSED SESSION**

Commissioner Sadler moved to go to closed session; Commissioner Reed seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, 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:

- a. Subpoena Requests

OHR Case No.: OHR21-1101
EEOC Case No.: 12H-2022-00004

Vice-Chair Sadler moved to issue the subpoena as requested. Seconded by Commissioner Green. The subpoena will be issued.

FEPA Charge No.: OHR21-0904
EEOC Charge No.: 531-2021-02898

Vice-Chair Sadler moved to issue the subpoena as requested. Seconded by Commissioner Bryant. The subpoena will be issued.

- b. Appeals from the Executive Director's Action

OHR Charge No.: HRC20-1203

Commissioner Oduyebo moved to uphold the Executive Director's action. Seconded by Commissioner Price-Carter. By unanimous vote, the Commission upheld the Executive Director's decision and the case is dismissed.

FEPA Case No.: HRC20-1704
EEOC Charge No.: 531-2020-01982

Commissioner Price-Carter moved to uphold the Executive Director's action. Seconded by Commissioner Johnson. By unanimous vote, the Commission upheld the Executive Director's decision and the case is dismissed.

c. Certification for Public Hearing

HRC Case No.: HRC20-1002
EEOC Charge No.: 12H-2021-00002

This matter was before the Commission in November and held over to January's meeting. Commissioner Gutierrez recused herself from this matter.

The Commission certified this matter for public hearing.

Panel Members: Commissioner Oduyebo as Panel Chair, Commissioner Reed, Commissioner Price-Carter. Commissioner Howard as alternate.

Hearing dates to be determined.

FEPA Charge No.: HRC21-0202
EEOC Case No.: 531-2020-02614

Teonna Marshall v Seafood Fusions, Inc (aka Hook and Reel, Inc.)

Investigator Langston Clay

The Commission certified this matter for public hearing.

Panel Members: Commissioner Bryant as Panel Chair, Commissioner Johnson, Vice-Chair Sadler. Secretary Woolfolk as the alternate.

Hearing dates to be determined.

14. **ADJOURNMENT** – 7:46 pm

Commissioner Reed - Moved to adjourn
Commissioner Johnson– Seconded the motion.

Wade Woolfolk

Commissioner Woolfolk
Secretary

Guests

Daniela Jurada Fuentes

Ian S

LeXundra Willingham

Olamilekan Shitta-Bey

Lydia Girma

Ashlie Galley

Aliciyia Henry

Ella R

Myles McKell

Taniyah Fennell

Cesia Perez

Nailah

Janiya Proctor (Maryland Commission on Civil Rights)

Emmi Hernandez

Godwill Tewan

Dia Drake-Sprague (Maryland Commission on Civil Rights)

Ramana Briggs

Michelle Radcliffe