

Prince George's County Human Relations Commission

Monday, April 26, 2021

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

ATTENDEES:

Commissioners:

Nora Eidelman, Chairperson
Charlene Proctor, Vice-Chair
Wade Woolfolk, Secretary
Nathaniel Bryant
Adonna Bannister Green
Llamilet Gutierrez
Sylvia Johnson
Ademola Oduyebo
Andrea Price-Carter
Felicia Lasley Sadler

Keisha Garner, Counsel to the Commission

Excused:

Wendi Howard
Joseph Reed

Staff:

Renée Battle-Brooks
Executive Director

Kyla Hanington
Clerk to the Commission

Jose Villegas
Senior Investigator

Guests:

Keith Merkey – MCCR

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order – The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.
2. Adopt Agenda – Commissioner Bryant– Motion to adopt the agenda; Commissioner Price-Carter– Seconded the Motion. By unanimous vote, the agenda was adopted as written.
3. Approval of Minutes of the **March 22, 2021** meeting. Commissioner Johnson– Motion to adopt to minutes of the March 22 meeting. Commissioner Price-Carter – Seconded the Motion. By unanimous vote, the minutes were adopted.
4. **REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON**

The Chair welcomed everyone and reminded the Commissioners that financial disclosure forms are due April 30th for anyone who hasn't yet completed. She noted that the Executive Director would be offering updates on Division 12. The Executive Committee

met to review by-laws and will have another meeting tomorrow. When by-laws are updated they will send to full Commission as well as Executive Director for review. She thanked the Commission for all of their efforts and their team.

She announced that she will not be seeking re-appointment as Chair of the Commission and that the June meeting will be her last Commission meeting. She thanked former County Executive Rushern Baker for appointing her and thanked County Executive Alsobrooks for appointing her Chair. She has been honored and grateful to have served alongside all of the Commissioners.

5. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director reminded the Commissioners that the Clerk had recently sent out event news about upcoming events and encouraged Commissioners to check the Commission's webpage to see upcoming as well as previously held events. She provided information about CB-11 – the Executive order that separates our office from the Office of Community Relations, taking us back to how our agency stood from 1972 to 2011. CB-12-2021 is the updated version of Division 12 which will take effect on October 1, 2021. The Office of Law also clarified functions of staff and commissioners. The only substantive changes were adding gender identity as a protected class and changing name to Office of Human Rights. She also noted that under housing division there were updates to protected classes. The Executive Director offered to send CB-11 and/or CB-12 out for any of the Commissioners who are interested. Discussion about updates and separation of agencies.

The Executive Director shared information about the Language Access Compliance Program, providing a detailed introduction to the act and the agency's program.

6. CASES SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

HRC Charge No.: HRC17-1102

EEOC Charge No.: 12H-2018-00006

Delannie Spriggs v Board of Education of Prince George's County

(Investigator Langston Clay)

Panel Members: Commissioner Reed as Panel Chair, Commissioner Bryant, Commissioner Johnson; Secretary Woolfolk as alternate.

This case was scheduled for public hearing on March 3, 2020 and March 5, 2020. A motion for continuance was granted. Due to the health crisis, hearing dates were postponed. New hearing dates were set for December 9th and December 10th, 2020. Those hearing dates were postponed as the parties were undergoing settlement discussions. A motion to dismissal due to settlement was before the Commission in closed session.

HRC Charge No.: HRC19-0306

EEOC Charge No.: 531-2018-01416

Carisia Dyson v Staffing Etc.

(Investigator V'Hesspa Glenn)

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

A scheduling order was issued setting hearing dates for March 9 and 11, 2021. A Motion for Continuance was received from the Executive Director. An order for that matter was issued and new dates were scheduled for April 8, 2021 and April 13, 2021. The matter was rescheduled for May 12th and May 20th, 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; Vice-Chair Proctor as alternate.

A scheduling order for this matter has been issued with hearing dates set for April 7th and 12th. This matter was rescheduled for April 29th and May 6th, 2021.

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.

A scheduling order in this matter has been issued with hearing dates of April 20 and 22nd. A motion for continuance was received and an order was issued with new hearing dates of June 22nd and June 23rd, 2021.

7. CASES READY FOR DECISION - NONE

8. HEARING PANEL UPDATES

HRC Case No.: HRC17-0809

EEOC Case No.: 531-2017-00390

Henry Lewis V Board of Education of Prince George's County

(Investigator Langston Clay)

Panel Members: Vice-Chair Proctor as Panel Chair, Commissioner Price-Carter, Commissioner Green; Commissioner Bryant as alternate.

Five evenings of public hearing in this matter were held January 28, December 15th, December 16th, 2020, January 27th, 2021, and February 3rd, 2021. The Panel had indicated during March 2021 meeting that they had provided a recommendation. The Chair provided an update and stated that an order was being drafted based on the recommendation and was expected to be between full Commission for May meeting.

9. CASE UPDATE – NONE

10. **ATTENDANCE RECORD** – Attached

11. **NEW BUSINESS** - NONE

12. **OLD BUSINESS** - NONE

13. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. The next Commission meeting is scheduled for May 24, 2021.

14. **CLOSED SESSION**

Vice-Chair Proctor - Moved to go to closed session, Seconded by Commissioner Sadler, by unanimous vote moved to close 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.

Return from closed session 6:59 pm

FEPA Charge No: HRC21-0202

Sadler moved, seconded by Green

The Commission approved the subpoena request and the Commission will issue the subpoenas.

HRC17-1102

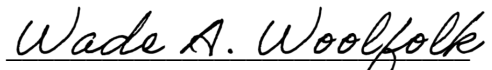
EEOC 12H-2018-00006

The Commission accepted the motion to dismiss.

Vice-Chair moved; Seconded by Commissioner Johnson.

By unanimous vote the motion to dismiss is issued and the Commission will issue an order.

15. **ADJOURNMENT** –7: 03 pm


Commissioner Woolfolk
Secretary