

Prince George's County Human Rights Commission

Monday, May 20, 2024
Zoom Meeting of the
Prince George's County
Human Rights Commission

Attendees:

Commissioners:

Charlene Proctor, Chair
Joseph Reed, Vice-Chair
Keith Adams, Secretary
Traci Birkhead
Roslyn Brown (Absent)
Turkessa Brown
Brindisi Chan
Regina Gilmore
Daryl Jackson (Excused)
Sylvia Johnson
Ademola Oduyebo

Counsel:

Tanto Odubiyi, Esq
Gabriel Christian, Esq

Staff:

Renée Battle-Brooks
Executive Director

Jose Villegas
Assistant Director

Kyla Hanington
Acting Clerk

Guests:

None

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order – The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm. The Commission Secretary conducted the roll call for the Commission Meeting. There were six (6) Commissioners present at roll call, representing a quorum.
2. Adopt Agenda – The Chair called for a review of the agenda. The agenda was adopted as distributed. The Chair introduced the Acting Clerk.
3. Approval of Minutes of the April 22, 2024, meeting. The minutes were adopted as distributed.
4. **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

The Chair welcomed everyone and thanked all for being in attendance. She welcomed

Counsel for the Commission, Tanto Odubiyi and Gabriel Christian.

5. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director welcomed everyone and noted the office has been busy. She provided an overview of some of the activities of the Office over the last few weeks. The Executive Director also shared some upcoming events being held by the agency, including several virtual interviews and appearing at the Prince George's Pride on June 2nd. She highlighted the 60th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act event on July 2nd from 12 – 3 pm. She asked that Commissioners let the Clerk know by Thursday at 5 pm if they are interested in attending.

6. CASES SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

a) FEPA Case No.: OHR23-0605

EEOC Case No.: 531-2022-00806

Kevin Boatwright v. 10 Roads Express

Investigator Beau Giebels

Panel Members: Vice Chair Reed as Panel Chair, Commissioner Birckhead, and Commissioner Johnson; Commissioner Gilmore as alternate. The Public Hearing in this matter was scheduled for May 14, 2024, June 10, 2024, and June 11, 2024. On May 10th the public hearing was ordered postponed pending the Commission's consideration of the Respondent's motion for summary judgement and the Executive Director's Opposition to the Motion.

b) OHR Charge No: OHRC23-0705

EEOC Charge No: 531-2023-01203

Carter v. Civil Construction

Investigator Caitlin Mohler

Panel Members: Commissioner Jackson as Panel Chair, Commissioner Adams, Commissioner Chan; Commissioner T. Brown as alternate. The public hearing in this matter is scheduled for August 1st and August 22nd, 2024.

7. CASE STATUS UPDATE

FEPA Case No.: OHR22-3301

EEOC Case No.: 12H-2022-00017

Tammie Owens v. Prince George's County Department of Corrections

Investigator Clay Langston

Panel Members: Chair Proctor as Panel Chair, Commissioner Birckhead, and Commissioner T. Brown; Commissioner Oduyebo as alternate.

This case was stayed by order of the Commission on March 25, 2024 (amended March 28, 2024), before the first night of public hearing. The order states that the parties shall file a status report within 60 days of this entry of this order. 60 days of the amended order date of

March 28, 2024, is May 27, 2024 – see notation following closed agenda.

8. **APPEAL HEARINGS**

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

- a. Teonna Marshall v. Seafood Fusions, Inc.
(aka Hook and Reel, Inc.)
HRC Case No.: HRC21-0202
This matter was scheduled to be heard March 29, 2024, but has been continued to May 30, 2024.
- b. Henry Lewis v. Board of Education of Prince George's County
HRC Case No.: HRC17-0809
On July 23, 2021, this case was filed for Judicial Review. A hearing on a Motion to Dismiss was rescheduled several times and was held on April 23, 2024. The Court granted the Respondent's Motion to Dismiss.
- c. Jenchesky Santiago v. City of Seat Pleasant
OHR Case No.: OHR21-0701 On February 15, 2024, this case was filed for Judicial Review. This matter is set for hearing May 23, 2024.

9. **ATTENDANCE RECORD** – Attached

The Chair invited the Commissioners to review the attendance record and, if noting any errors, to contact Acting Clerk Hanington.

The Chair acknowledged the arrival of Commissioners Birckhead and Gilmore.

10. **NEW BUSINESS** - None

11. **OLD BUSINESS** - None

12. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for June 24, 2024. There will be a public hearing training for Commissioners following the meeting.

13. **CLOSED SESSION**

The Commission moved to Closed Session to consult with Counsel and to Vice-Chair Reed – Moved

Commissioner Chan – Seconded the Motion.

By unanimous vote, the Commission moved to Closed Session.

Upon return from Closed session, Secretary Adams reported:

OHR23-0814

The action of the ED is overruled and is remanded back to ED for additional findings of fact

OHR -0917

Dismissed due to settlement

OHR 0605

Adopts memorandum decision and order in the affirmative.

Granting Respondent's motion for summary judgement and will be issuing order no later than Wednesday.

Subpoenas will be signed and distributed to the parties.

The Clerk noted a necessary connection to the agenda and the record. The Clerk erred in dates on the Owens matter under item 7. Sixty (60) days from the amended order date of March 28 is May 27, 2024. The Clerk apologized for the error in the agenda.

14. **ADJOURNMENT** – Chair Proctor adjourned the meeting at 6:58 pm.
Vice-Chair Reed - Motioned
Commissioner Oduyebo – Seconded the motion

Keith B. Adams

Commission Secretary