



## MEETING MINUTES

### FREDERICK COUNTY

#### Human Relations Commission

30 May 2023 | 6 PM

Winchester Hall, Frederick, MD

#### ATTENDEES:

Commissioners: Mari Lee, V. Lee Whisner, Lisa Clark, Veronica Lowe, Karen Duffy, Annette Breiling, Karen Duffy, Georgette Hughes, Irene Packer-Halsey, and Cindy Shubin; Dana Falls, FCPS Liaison

Guests: Haley Rizkallah, Angela & Rick Weaver

Not present: Commissioner Chris Isleib

- I. Call To Order – Mari Lee called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.
- II. Roll Call of Members – see attendance above.
- III. Public Comments - Angela & Rick Weaver shared about FCPS’ recent decision to not allow their son to wear his Native American Stole during his upcoming graduation, and the steps they went through to get answers. FCPS reversed their decision, and he was authorized to wear it. However, they still have concerns regarding the issue.
- IV. Guest Speakers: Gayon Sampson, City of Frederick Mayor’s Office, Chief of Staff briefly talked about his role as Chief of Staff. Ramonta Cottrell, City of Frederick, Director of Housing & Human Services presented the Annual Department Data Report 2022. Both speakers took questions from the members.
- V. Frederick City Police Department Report - None
- VI. Approval of the March minutes – Irene Packer-Halsey moved to approve the minutes; Veronica Lowe seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- VII. Committee Reports
  - a. Executive Committee
    - The Executive Committee met and discussed the agenda for the June meeting.
    - Treasurer’s Report – No report.
  - b. Standing Committees
    - CRC: No report.
    - GRC: No report.
    - IRC: No report.

VIII. Liaison Reports – Dana Falls, FCPS Liaison, thanked the Weavers for attending and sharing their story.

IX. Unfinished Business

- a. Reparations – Special committee will meet soon to discuss the final forum in our 3-part series.
- b. Awards Celebration recap – A few members shared their appreciation and thoughts – re: the recent Human Rights Achievement Awards Celebration.
- c. Bylaws Amendments – Mari Lee informed members that the County Attorney reviewed and approved the language in our proposed Bylaws amendments, except for one minor condition in Article IV, Section 4. See Action Items for action taken regarding that condition.
- d. HRC meeting date – members are discussing the possibility of changing our meeting date and time. We’re waiting for feedback regarding dates and times for available meeting space at Winchester Hall.

X. New Business

- a. Member Reappointments – See Action Items
- b. New Member Recommendation – the prospective member was unable to attend. We will address this recommendation and take the matter to a vote at the next meeting if applicable.
- c. Slate of Officers – Cindy Shubin presented the slate of executive officers for the next fiscal year: Chair, Mari Lee; Vice Chair, Lee Whisner; Treasurer, Cindy Shubin, Parliamentarian, Chris Isleib; Member at-large, Veronica Lowe. No other nominations made from the floor. Vote to be held during the June 2023 meeting.
- d. Recording Events –Members discussed whether to implement a policy on recording.
- e. Purchase of Various Items – See Action Items

XI. Action Items

- a. Motion moved that proposed amendment Article IV, Section 4 should be amended to reflect “one HRC monthly meeting and one HRC-sponsored event” or “two monthly meetings.” Cindy Shubin; 2<sup>nd</sup> Karen Duffy. Passed unanimously.
- b. Motion moved to adopt all of the Bylaws amendments. Lisa Clark; 2<sup>nd</sup> Cindy Shubin. Passed unanimously; copy will now go to the County Executive for review.
- c. Consensus decision – HRC will not record any events.
- d. Motion moved to accept the HRC executive committee’s recommendation to reappoint Chris Isleib. Cindy Shubin, 2<sup>nd</sup> Annette Breiling. Passed unanimously. We will send our customary letter
- e. Motion moved to purchase the following items:
  - Two plaques for former Director Miles Ward and Administrative Coordinator in appreciation for the dedication and work for the HRC. Cindy Shubin; 2<sup>nd</sup> Georgette Hughes. Passed unanimously.

- \$500 venue cost for a multicultural event cohosted with AACF. Irene Packer-Halsey; 2<sup>nd</sup> Veronica Lowe. Passed unanimously.
- Name badges, business cards, & customized shirts/hoodies. Veronica Lowe; 2<sup>nd</sup> Karen Duffy. Passed unanimously.
- Tent with canopy, table, two chairs, and a tablecloth. Irene Packer-Halsey; 2<sup>nd</sup> Lisa Clark. Passed unanimously.

XII. Staff Report - No report.

XIII. Brief Comments - Members that chose to do so gave brief final comments.

XIV. Adjourn - The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM.