

Raul Torres Executive Director

May 11, 2023,

Minutes of April 13, 2023

Human Rights Commission MINUTES

Dr. Erika Laos Padreus D. Pratter Aaron Muz Benjamin Baldwin Victor L. Ginoba, Jr.

**Human Rights Commission**Curtis Porter, Chairman

Evelyn BruMar, Vice Chair Ramunda Young, Parliamentarian

William A. Johnston, III

Board Chambers

ChairMembersCurtis O. PorterWilliam JohnstonVice ChairDr. Erika LaosEvelyn BruMarPadreus D. PratterParliamentarianAaron MuzRamunda YoungBenjamin BaldwinVictor L. Ginoba, Jr.

<u>Present</u>: Commissioners, Padreus Pratter, Victor Ginoba, William Johnston, Evelyn BruMar, Vice Chair and Curtis Porter, Chair, Director Raul Torres, Shelia Venning, and Tiffany Jones. There were three citizens present. Chair Porter called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm.

## **Citizens Time**

Three citizens were present.

#### **Old Business**

Minutes of April 13, 2023, were approved (Johnston/Ginoba-second)

## **New Business**

- Resolution to declare, affirm and recognize the month of May as Asian and Pacific Islander American Heritage Month (BruMar moved/Johnston-second) Resolution passed 5/0 - 4 absent.
- Motion to host a forum on hate incidents occurring in Prince William County (Johnston/BruMar-second) Resolution passed 5/0 -4 absent.
- The County Attorney will attend the May meeting to discuss the legal viability of expanding services to the City of Manassas and Manassas Park.

# **Committee Reports**

## **Student Leadership Council**

• The Graduation for Cohort 7 was held on March 27 at 6 pm in the Auditorium at the Ferlazzo building. Thirty-six (36) students participated and graduated in Cohort 7.

30 Years of Eliminating Discrimination and Establishing Equal Opportunity

# **Unity in the Community**

- On April 14<sup>th</sup> Unity in the Community will meet at the Mosque in Manassas to break the fast and celebrate the end of Ramadan.
- The next meeting will be held on Sunday, April 16, to recognize Fair Housing Month.

## **VAHR**

• The Chair has extended the deadline to April 30 for other jurisdictions to provide feedback on the future of VAHR.

# Racial Social Justice Commission (RSJC)

• The RSJC will meet on Thursday, April 20.

#### **PWC Jail Board**

- The Jail Board meeting was held on March 15.
- The average inmate population in jail for the last fiscal year was 520 inmates. The facility can hold up to 871 inmates/1,320 inmates if they are double bunked.
- As of March 2023, there has been one inmate that has tested positive for COVID.
  No staff have tested positive.
- The Jail Board requests that Correctional Officers be considered equal to other law enforcement personnel in compensation. The proposed budget has a 12% increase for Police and Fire and a 7% increase for Correctional Officers. The Correctional Officers are requesting a 15% increase.

# **Director's Report**

- On March 23 at 6 pm, Director Torres attended the Prince William County Iftar Dinner celebrating the beginning of Ramadan.
- Prince William Times published an article in 2022 about hate crimes occurring in Prince William and Fauquier County. The article mostly details antisemitisms incidents against Jewish people.

#### **COMMISSIONER'S TIME**

**Padreus Pratter** – Student Leadership Council graduation is a highlight for him being on the commission.

Victor Ginoba – Last month was the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Iraq War.

William Johnston – The Commanders being sold.

**Evenly BruMar** – Witnessed the swearing-in of the new council member for the town of Haymarket. She wants to educate Haymarket Council members on what we do at the HRC.

**Curtis Porter** – Chair Porter would like to thank everyone for a great job with Student Leadership Council graduation. Also, NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet will be held on April 28.

# The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm.

# **ACTIONABLE ITEMS**

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	DUE DATE	STATUS

# PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION CHARGES AND OUTCOMES FOR APRIL 2023

	Case Closures	Cases Opened	Inventory
Employment	2	1	
Housing			
Public Accommodation			
Education			
Credit			
TOTAL			17