April 11, 2024,

Minutes of March 14, 2024
Human Rights Commission
J McCoart Building – Board Chambers

MINUTES

Chair
Curtis O. Porter
Vice Chair
Evelyn BruMar
Parliamentarian
Ramunda Young

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

Present: Commissioners Benjamin Baldwin, Padreus Pratter, Aaron Muz, Victor Ginoba, Vice Chair Evelyn BruMar, Chairman Curtis Porter, Director Raul Torres, Manager Shelia Venning, and Administrative Specialist Tiffany Jones.

Chair Porter called the meeting to order at 7:31 pm.

Citizens Time
• 10 citizens were present at the meeting.

Old Business
• The minutes of the February 8, 2024, meeting was approved (BruMar moved/Baldwin-second)

New Business
• Nine (9) students from Cohort 8 made presentations before the Commission on issues related to civil and human rights.

• Resolution to Declare, Affirm, and Recognize the month of April of 2024 as Fair Housing Month (Baldwin moved/Ginoba second) Resolution passed 6/0, 3 absent.
Committee Reports

**Unity in the Community**
- Unity in the Community met on February 25th at the First AME Church of Manassas, for post discussion concerning the MLK Oratorical contest that was held on January 15th.
- The next meeting will be held on March 24th at 6:30 pm, Little Union Baptist Church. PWC Police Chief, Peter Newsham, will be the guest speaker at this meeting.

**Human Rights Student Leadership Council**
- Graduation for Cohort 8 will be held on April 4th, 6 pm in the auditorium of the Ferlazzo Building.

**Director’s Report**
- We are planning a community dialogue with the Muslim community on June 25th, 6 pm, in the auditorium of the Ferlazzo building. We are in the process of changing the date due to the BOCS meeting.
- The County Attorney, Michelle Robl, will update the commission on the Manassas City/Park expansion at our April 11th meeting.
- Director Torres presented the Human Rights Office 2023 Annual Report to the commission.

**COMMISSIONER’S TIME**

**Victor Ginoba** – Appreciated the SLC presenters and he enjoyed reading all the essays.

**Benjamin Baldwin** – Enjoyed the SLC presentations.

**Padreus Pratter** – Thanks to staff and Mrs. Sparkes for all the work that is being done with the SLC.

**Aaron Muz** – Great job to all the presenters.

**Evelyn BruMar** – March 12th Gov. Youngkin signed the Marriage Equality bill; Casa BruMar Foundation has opened an office near the Prince William Hospital to focus on Mental Health.

**Curtis Porter** – Thank you for all your hard work.

The meeting was adjourned at 8.48 pm.

**ACTIONABLE ITEMS**

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