

Raul Torres Executive Director

July 10, 2025

Minutes of June 12, 2025 Human Rights Commission James J McCoart Building – Board Chambers

Human Rights Commission

Curtis Porter, Chairman
Evelyn BruMar, Vice Chair
Ramunda Young, Parliamentarian
William A. Johnston, III
Padreus D. Pratter
Benjamin Baldwin
Victor L. Ginoba, Jr.
Kimberly Sparkes
Victoria D. Staubly

MINUTES

ChairMembersCurtis O. PorterWilliam JohnstonVice ChairKimberly SparkesEvelyn BruMarPadreus D. PratterParliamentarianVictoria D. StaublyRamunda YoungBenjamin BaldwinVictor L. Ginoba, Jr.

<u>Present</u>: Commissioners: Benjamin Baldwin, Victoria Staubly, Victor Ginoba, William Johnston, Ramunda Young, Chair, Curtis Porter, Director, Raul Torres, Assistant Director, Shelia Venning, and Administrative Specialist Tiffany Jones.

Chair Porter called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Citizens Time

There were no citizens present.

Old Business

The minutes of the May 8, 2025, meeting was approved (Young moved/Baldwin – seconded).

New Business

Chair Porter, Director Torres, and Assistant Director Venning met with Prince William County Schools Superintendent, Dr. LaTanya McDade; Chief Equity Officer, Dr. Charmelle Ackins; and PWC Police Chief, Peter Newsham, to discuss concerns about hate and bias issues within Prince William County Public Schools. The schools expressed their willingness to collaborate and improve communication with the Human Rights Commission. They are addressing incidents in specific school communities and will provide opportunities for the Commission to work together.

A gentleman approached the Human Rights Commission, expressing interest in establishing a local Human Rights Commission in the Fredericksburg area. Chair Porter and Assistant Director Venning presented to the community at Shiloh Baptist Church. The event was well-attended, with approximately 50 people present in person and 25 participating via Zoom. Shiloh Baptist Social Justice Commission sponsored this meeting. They plan to create a regional commission that would include King George, Spotsylvania, Fredericksburg, and Stafford counties.

Committee Reports

Unity in the Community

Nothing to Report

Jail Board

Nothing to Report. The next Jail Board meeting will be held on July 16, 2025.

Director's Report

- The Human Rights office has hired a college intern for the summer. Grace Ashbrook is a resident of Prince William County and a rising senior at Longwood University. Her major is Political Science with a pre-law focus, and she is minoring in history and philosophy.
- The office has published its "Focus on Human Rights" newsletter. Also, if you're experiencing housing difficulties or can't pay your rent or mortgage, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) offers a program that links you with certified housing counselors. These counselors can suggest options and provide help to address these problems.
- The <u>Fair Housing Testing Report</u> has also been released. A total of 60 rental tests were conducted at apartment complexes across different zip codes in Western Prince William County. The results showed no signs of discrimination based on race or national origin.
- Director Torres attended the Prince William County Procurement Expo on June 11th.
 He met with several vendors to discuss services related to language access. The office aims to expand language access services to assist more residents better.

 Additionally, Director Torres requested that the Commission dismiss 202510-PWHRO-003-PA. (Motion: Baldwin/ Young Second) passed unanimously.

COMMISSIONER'S TIME

<u>Victoria Staubly</u> – Commissioner Staubly is looking forward to the Dale City 4th of July Parade.

Benjamin Baldwin – Commissioner Baldwin is looking forward to the Dale City 4th of July Parade.

Victor Ginoba – Commissioner Ginoba is looking forward to the Dale City 4th of July Parade.

<u>William Johnston</u> — Made a mention of Congressman Connely's passing.

<u>Ramunda Young</u> – Commissioner Young is excited about Juneteenth and all the events happening in the community.

<u>Curtis Porter</u> – On June 19^{th,} PWC will be hosting their Juneteenth event with food trucks and live music. Mayor Wood with the Town of Dumfries will also be hosting a Juneteenth event.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

ACTIONABLE ITEMS

RESPONSIBLE PERSON	DUE DATE	STATUS

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION CHARGES AND OUTCOMES FOR MAY 2025

	Case Closures	Cases Opened	Inventory
Employment	4	2	
Housing		1	
Public Accommodation	1		
Education			
Credit			
TOTAL		•	23