

MOTION: Staubly

SECOND: Ginoba

January 08, 2026
Regular Meeting
HRC RES 26 - 01

RE: A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE, AFFIRM, AND RECOGNIZE THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2026 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

ACTION:

WHEREAS, during Black History Month, we celebrate the vast contributions of African Americans to our Nation's history and identity; and

WHEREAS, some in our nation have launched a systematic effort to erase the significant contributions of African Americans under the premise that the study of black history is divisive; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month originated from the establishment of Negro History Week in 1926 by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, a Virginian, and the Association for the Study of African American Life and History; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme for Black History Month, "**A Century of Black History Commemorations**," marks the 100th anniversary of the first Black History Week in 1926, and highlights the enduring importance and impact of these celebrations in American culture and worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the year 2026 also marks the centennial of Dr. Carter G. Woodson's founding of Black History Week, encouraging reflection on how Black history has been celebrated over the past century and its role in advancing Black life, culture, and progress; and

WHEREAS, Over the years, to combat the exploitation of Black labor, wage discrepancies, and employment discrimination based on race, sex, and gender, Black professionals (teachers, nurses, musicians, and lawyers, etc.) occupations (steel workers, washerwomen, dock workers, sports, arts and sciences, etc.), organized for better working conditions and compensation; and

WHEREAS, African Americans have been a significant piece of the fabric of Prince William County, including the arts, since the 1600's, both enslaved and free; and

WHEREAS, in Prince William County, we acknowledge that black history cannot and will not be erased from the fabric of our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince William County Human Rights Commission recognizes through this resolution the Month of February 2026 as Black History Month in Prince William County and encourages all residents to honor and celebrate the contributions of African Americans to the workforce in our county.

Votes

Ayes: Johnston, Ginoba, BruMar, Porter, Staubly, Sparkes, Young

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent from the meeting: Baldwin, Pratter

ATTEST: 

Executive Director