



Raul Torres
Executive Director

May 14, 2026

Minutes of April 9, 2026
Human Rights Commission
James J McCoart Building – Board Chambers

MINUTES

Chair

Curtis O. Porter

Vice Chair

Evelyn BruMar

Parliamentarian

Ramunda Young

Members

William Johnston

Kimberly Sparkes

Padreus D. Pratter

Victoria D. Staubly

Benjamin Baldwin

Russell Young

Present: Commissioners: Victoria Staubly, Benjamin Baldwin, Ramunda Young, Kimberly Sparkes, William Johnston, 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 March 12, 2026, meeting were approved (Young moved/Baldwin – seconded).

New Business

- A motion was adopted to include the Racial & Social Justice Task Force as a standing item on the Human Rights Commission Agenda. (Baldwin moved/Staubly second). Passed 6/0
- Resolution to Declare, Affirm, and Recognize the month of April 2026 as Arab American Heritage Month (Staubly moved/Johnston second). Resolution passed 6/0.

- Resolution to Declare, Affirm, and Recognize the month of May 2026 as Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Month (Baldwin moved/Young second). Resolution passed 6/0.

Committee Reports

Jail Board

- At the March 18, 2026, Jail Board meeting, the following updates were provided for the January and February 2026 reporting period:
 - Facility Capacity: (Single- Bunked) 871 | (Double-Bunked) 1,320
 - Average inmates count: Jan: 540 | Feb: 534
 - State Prison Transfers: Jan: 13 | Feb: 10
 - Commitments: Jan: 548 | Feb: 526
 - Releases: Jan: 552 | Feb: 520
 - Process only (without committed): Jan: 41 | Feb: 45
 - Recruitment Metrics: January Hires: 6 | February Hires: 10
 - Year-to-Date total: 98 new staff members have been hired in 2026.
- The ADC is actively recruiting to fill 23 vacancies.
- Lobby construction is now complete. The next phase of facility improvements will focus on elevator upgrades.
- All programs, including religious and sports, remain fully active and are proceeding without issues.

Student Leadership Council

- The Cohort 10 graduation will take place on April 28 at 6:30 PM in the Ferlazzo Building Auditorium.
- The ceremony will celebrate 52 graduates and recognize 8 ambassadors for their contributions.
- The guest speakers will include Chief Equity Officer, Dr. Charmelle Ackins for Prince William County Public Schools, and Mr. Christopher Shorter, County Executive (CXO) with Prince William County Government, as our guest speakers, with Chairman, Curtis Porter serving as the Master of Ceremonies.

Racial & Social Justice Task Force

- The Racial & Social Justice Task Force convened on April 9 at 6:00 PM. This inaugural organizational meeting was held to establish a formal schedule. Moving forward, the Task Force will meet on the second Thursday of every other month.
- The Task Force reviewed the report previously submitted to the Board of County Supervisors (BOCS). In the months ahead, the group will assess the recommendations to

track progress, verify completed objectives, and identify areas where further action is required.

- The next meeting is scheduled for June 11, where the Task Force will host Chief Newsham of the Prince William County Police Department. Looking ahead, the Task Force intends to invite Human Resources Director Susan Washington in August, followed by Dr. Charmelle Akins of Prince William County Public Schools in October to provide updates on their respective progress.

Director's Report

- The Board of County Supervisors has appointed Russell Young to fill the seat vacated by Victor Ginoba. Mr. Young, who currently serves as a Council Member for the Town of Dumfries, will serve as Supervisor Bailey's appointee. We expect to have him start at the next commission meeting.
- To further expand community outreach, the office is prioritizing language accessibility by adding Arabic translations to our printed materials, building upon existing Spanish-language resources.
- To better engage our Hispanic residents, we are also launching a six-week advertising campaign on a local Spanish radio station.
- The office maintains a healthy workload, currently managing 40 active discrimination cases in different states of investigation.
- The position of Investigator remains vacant. The office continues to actively seek qualified candidates to fill this role.

COMMISSIONER'S TIME

William Johnston – Commissioner Johnston would like someone to get the wars wrapped up.

Benjamin Baldwin – Commissioner Baldwin is always happy to be here and serving with everybody.

Victoria Staubly – Commissioner Staubly would like to thank Chair Porter for attending the Trans Day of Visibility. Also, looking forward to the Student Leadership Graduation.

Kimberly Sparkes – Commissioner Sparkes noted that police officers will receive a 19% salary increase plus a 3% merit increase. There are discussions underway for a 15% salary increase plus 3% merit increase for the Sheriff's Office. The Adult Detention Center (ADC) was not included in these specific adjustments. She intended to bring this disparity to her director's attention during their next meeting.

Commissioner Sparkes will host a virtual informational session with Virginia Human Resources on May 4 to discuss internship and fellowship opportunities for the youth.

Additionally, the NAACP 2026 Freedom Fund Banquet is scheduled for Saturday, May 2, from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM at the Little Union Baptist Church in Dumfries.

Ramunda Young – informed the Commission that Supervisor Angry will host an Appointee Breakfast on May 9; this event is open to the public and will take place in the morning.

Additionally, Commissioner Young is organizing a "Know Your Rights" workshop, tentatively scheduled for May 30. She is excited about the project and the community members who have already committed to participating in the event.

Curtis Porter – Chair Porter thanked Commissioner Sparkes for highlighting the NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet. The event is scheduled for Saturday, May 2, from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM at Little Union Baptist Church in Dumfries. Tickets are priced at \$100 per person. Chair Porter will serve as the Master of Ceremonies, and Don Scott of the Virginia House of Delegates will be the keynote speaker.

Additionally, the City of Richmond has offered to provide training for the Commission. Plans are underway for a one-day session in Richmond, with the date to be finalized for either September 26 or October 17.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm.

ACTIONABLE ITEMS

	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	DUE DATE	STATUS
Send an email to Commissioners to find out the best date to attend a local networking meeting.	Tiffany Jones	4/10/2026	Completed

**PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
CHARGES AND OUTCOMES FOR APRIL 2026**

	Case Closures	Cases Opened	Inventory
Employment	2	8	
Housing			
Public Accommodation			
Education			
Credit			
TOTAL			47