



PRINCE WILLIAM

Human Rights

Raul Torres
Executive Director

July 9, 2026

Minutes of June 11, 2026
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
Kimberly Sparkes
Victoria D. Staubly
Russell Young

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: Chair, Curtis O. Porter; Vice Chair, Evelyn BruMar; Ramunda Young; William Johnston; Russell Young; Benjamin Baldwin; Victoria D. Staubly; Director, Raul Torres; Assistant Director, Shelia Venning; and Administrative Specialist, Tiffany Jones.

Chair Porter called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Citizens Time

- There were no citizens present.

Old Business

The minutes of the May 14, 2026, meeting were approved (BruMar moved/Baldwin – seconded).

New Business

- Chair Porter formally welcomed and introduced the Deputy County Executive, Dr. Alicia Hart, to the commission. Dr. Hart took a moment to provide an overview of the agencies and departments that fall within her portfolio and area of responsibility. She outlined the broad and diverse scope of her quadrant, which encompasses a wide range of critical county functions and services. The agencies under Dr. Hart's purview include Human

Rights, Human Resources, Department of Information Technology, Procurement, Facilities & Fleet Management, Strategic Planning, and Office of Performance Management.

- Resolution to Declare, Affirm, and Recognize July 4th, 2026, as the 250th Anniversary of the United States of America (Baldwin moved/BruMar seconded). Resolution passed 7/0
- Resolution to Declare, Affirm, and Recognize the month of July 2026 as Disability Pride Month (Young moved/Baldwin seconded). Resolution passed 7/0

Committee Reports

Jail Board

- At the Jail Board meeting held on May 20, 2026, Colonel West presented highlights from his first year as Superintendent, noting significant progress across several key areas. Staff vacancies have been reduced to just two open positions, supported by increased county funding that has improved both officer retention and recruitment over the last two budget cycles.
- Capital improvements are ongoing, with the recently completed lobby renovation enhancing security and improving movement for inmates and visitors alike. The facility's inmate population remains steady at 500, well within the unit's single-bunk capacity of 871. Financially, the jail is in a strong position, with programs fully funded over the past two fiscal years, now under the direction of a new Finance Director.

Racial & Social Justice Task Force

- Peter Newsham, Chief of Police of the Prince William County Police Department, delivered a presentation outlining the department's ongoing progress and addressing the recommendations put forth by the Racial & Social Justice Committee in December 2021. The presentation provided an update on the steps being taken in response to the committee's findings and guidance.

Director's Report

- Director Torres introduced Leah Jones, the department's new Human Rights Intern. Leah Jones is a rising senior at Virginia State University, majoring in Criminal Justice.

- The department shared both hard and electronic copies of the Fair Housing Testing Report for review. The testing was conducted in the eastern portion of the county, with 65 tests completed. No systemic issues were identified.
- The program serves two primary purposes: to identify and capture instances of differential treatment and to deter discrimination through annual, unannounced testing. Next year, testing will shift to the western side of the county.
- The department is actively recruiting a new investigator following the resignation of a staff member who relocated to North Carolina. Applications have been received and reviewed, with four to five candidates selected to advance to phone interviews scheduled for the following week. A contract investigator may be brought on temporarily to cover the gap.
- A newly hired investigator recently completed a two-day training on Title VII and investigative procedures, led by Cheryl Mabry, a former EEOC executive. Human Resources business partners were also invited to participate to deepen their understanding of the law. The training was extended to intern Leah Jones as well.
- The department currently maintains a healthy caseload of 60 open cases handled by two investigators. The department remains on track to meet its contract obligations by September 30, 2026.
- Throughout June, the department has been actively engaged in outreach and education across various community segments, including the following events:
 - June 2nd – Outreach at Prince William Proud
 - June 6th & 7th – Participation in the Occoquan Festival
 - June 13th – Attendance at the PWC Hunger Free Rally and Food Drive
 - June 16th – Hosting a 6:00 PM webinar titled Empowering Your Voice: Advocating for Disability Rights in the Workplace
 - June 17th – Presentation to Parks and Recreation and attendance at Elder Abuse Awareness Day
 - June 19th – Tabling at the Juneteenth & Me Festival

COMMISSIONER'S TIME

Victoria Staubly – Staubly shared that she plans to attend the Juneteenth celebration and encouraged all members to participate in the Fourth of July parade in Dale City. She also noted her intention to attend the PWC Hunger Free Rally. She enjoyed the Equality PWC Pride event and was pleased to see the Human Rights Commission in attendance as well.

Ben Baldwin – Baldwin commended the Racial & Social Justice Committee (RSJC) for Chief Newsham's presentation, highlighting the professionalism and accomplishments of the police department.

Commissioner Baldwin noted the high standard of excellence maintained by the police department and their continued engagement with the community and emphasized the importance of ongoing follow-through and review to sustain that standard.

William Johnston- Johnston briefly thanked everyone for keeping the meeting concise, allowing him to get home in time to watch the Stanley Cup.

Russell Young- Young announced plans to attend Juneteenth events at both Grace Church and the Town of Dumfries. He also highlighted that June 13th and 14th mark Unity Weekend at Grace Church, an open community event offering food and clothing to anyone in need.

Ramunda Young – Young extended a warm welcome to the newly appointed commissioner. She acknowledged June as Black Men's Mental Health Month and offered Juneteenth wishes to all in attendance. She noted that bestselling author and professor Eddie Glaude will host a meet-and-greet at Mahogany Books to celebrate Juneteenth. She also reflected on her experience at an appointee breakfast hosted by Supervisor Angry, describing it as an enriching opportunity to network with fellow community leaders and gain a broader understanding of the initiatives and efforts underway across various boards and committees in the area. She concluded her remarks by warmly welcoming intern Leah Jones to the Commission.

Evelyn BruMar- BruMar extended warm wishes to all in honor of Pride Month and Juneteenth. She shared that she attended the county employees' Pride event and commended the Human Rights Commission for its participation and representation. She urged Commissioners to take note of the upcoming November elections, drawing particular attention to the ballot measure to repeal the Marshall/Newman law on marriage equality, and encouraged all members to stay informed and actively engaged on the matter.

Additionally, BruMar recognized June as Indigenous Awareness Month, encouraging members to take time to research and learn about the Native tribes that inhabited Woodbridge and Dumfries before colonization. Finally, she reminded everyone to prioritize their health and well-being during the summer months by applying sunscreen and staying properly hydrated in the heat.

Chair Porter – Porter expressed his appreciation for the Human Rights Commission's outreach efforts with Parks and Recreation staff. He also commended the Chief of Police's presentation. He acknowledged the department's ongoing commitment to diversity, noting that 51 to 57 percent of current trainees are people of color, a significant and encouraging reflection of the department's progress in this area.

Porter further announced that the City of Richmond Human Rights Office will host a full-day training session on October 3rd, from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Invitations have been extended to established commissions in Arlington, Alexandria, Woodbridge, and Fairfax, as well as localities interested in starting their own, including Loudoun, Portsmouth, Harrisonburg, and Kent County. The Attorney General's Office is scheduled to speak on Civil Rights, and further details will be shared as they become available.

Chair Porter informed the Commission that he will be out of town and unable to attend the July meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 pm.

ACTIONABLE ITEMS

	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	DUE DATE	STATUS
Distribute a copy of the Chief of Police's presentation to the Task Force to all members of the commission.	Tiffany Jones	6/19/2026	6/15/2026

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

	Case Closures	Cases Opened	Inventory
Employment	4	1	
Housing			
Public Accommodation			
Education			
Credit			
TOTAL			56