

ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
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ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22201
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June 10, 2021
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA TEAMS
7 PM

Meeting Minutes

- I. Chair Helen Connolly called the meeting to order. Members present included Jose Quinonez, Steven Krieger, Walter Sergeant, Shawn Pierce, Carole Lieber, Roland Watkins and Whytni Kernodle. Executive Director Gurjit Chima and Anna Maynard were present from the Office of Human Rights. Bill Price was in attendance.
- II. The Chair asked Mr. Price to introduce himself. Mr. Price shared that he was interested in joining the commission and was active in the community.
- III. The Chair asked for any corrections to the draft June meeting minutes to which Mr. Watkins requested that language referencing the anti-bullying policy in the draft minutes be changed to: "A motion was made to recommend the implementation of the anti-bullying policy as drafted by Mr. Watkins." Mr. Sergeant moved to approve the minutes with this correction. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- IV. The Chair shared that changes to the county's procurement policy language were on track to be adopted and that the commission's board liaison had informed the Chair that the anti-bullying policy requested by the commission was under review by the county but would not be voted on at the July board meeting
- V. The Chair asked if commissioners reviewed the conflict of interest policy the Chair shared earlier in the day to which all commissioners responded they did. Mr. Watkins asked if the commission could have more time to review the policy and whether other commissions have such policies such as the Transportation Commission and Planning Commission. The Executive Director said, per the Chair's request, that she would find out if those two commissions had such policies and their respective enforcement mechanisms. Mr. Krieger shared his opinion that commissioners should not have to recuse themselves if they did not have material information regarding an appeal before the commission. Ms. Kernodle agreed with Mr. Krieger.
- VI. The Chair asked commissioners if the education outreach event could be moved to October. The Chair moved to schedule the event in October. The motion was seconded by Mr. Watkins and passed unanimously.
- VII. Mr. Quinonez shared that the first EEO Standing Committee meeting occurred in May and that he would ask commissioners when they wished to schedule the additional two meetings.
- VIII. The Executive Director shared that there was no action the commission needed to take to assist the office with collecting information for the MEI score submission but that it would be helpful if the commission shared any recommendations for policy or ordinance changes with

the office in addition to the county board for the office's awareness and to assist office staff working on such changes.

- IX. Chief of Police Charles Penn shared the circumstances under which SWAT vehicles were utilized. The Chair asked if implicit bias training has been implemented. Chief Penn stated that staff was provided implicit bias training. The Chair asked if there was any metric by which officers were evaluated for disproportionate number of stops for people of color. Chief Penn stated that the Community Policy Act required the department to capture demographic data about traffic stops. Chief Penn also shared that the Community Engagement Division created in the Police Department would be led Wayne Vincent.
- X. The meeting was adjourned.