

ROCKVILLE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MINUTES
JANUARY 25
Black-Eyed Susan Conference Room
7:30 P.M.

I. Convene

Chair Ebony Davis convened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

II. Chair Report:

A. Welcome Guests

Interested HRC candidates, visiting residents and City Manager Robert DeSpirito visited the meeting. Councilmember Julie Palakovich Carr also joined in the meeting

B. Introduction of City Manager, Robert DiSpirito

After being introduced, City Manager, Robert DiSpirito told the Commission about the upcoming Town Hall Meeting on February 9. Preparation questions were shared and the Commission commented on the questions and added ideas for follow up sessions to work on the responses that would be generated at the upcoming town hall meeting.

Questions and discussion also occurred over issues pertaining to the police. Suggestions were made for who could speak in the future around issues of human relations and policing.

Commissioner Cohen expressed concern for the problems taking place in the local middle schools and high schools involving students making racial slurs, fighting and making political and stereotypical statements against ethnic groups.

This discussion generated thought of what can be done to reduce the prevalence of these actions.

C Sponsored trip to the National Museum of African American History and Cultural

From the discussion about the trip to the museum:

- Staff will look into the use of the Senior bus
- There will be a decision about charging attendees
- There could be an introduction before going into the museum
- After the trip, there could be a reflective period which Commissioners Iceland and Smith said they would be interested doing.
- Staff will follow up with Commissioner Proctor about the securing of tickets

III. Staff Report:

A. Multimedia Contest Prompt

The Commissioners came up with a prompt for the students to use for their projects in the multimedia contest.

B. Affordable Housing Presentation

Staff encouraged Commissioners to attend a presentation that will be done by a consultant at the Mayor and Council meeting February 6.

IV. Open Forum

There was no open forum.

V. Old Business

There were no New Business items

VI. New Business

There were no New Business items

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. The next meeting will be February 22 at Rockville City Hall at 7:30 p.m.