



**ROCKVILLE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES**

Cisco WebEx Conference  
Wednesday, January 27, 2021  
7:30 p.m.

**Members Present:** Courtney Proctor, Chair; Andrew Lin, Vice Chair;  
Gabrielle Zwi; Delenia McIver; Kindra Jones; and Oyebisi Olatoye  
**Ambassadors Present:** Yash Thakur, Rosa Ghaderi, Ruben Dasgupta, and Joyce Onana  
**Liaisons Present:** Janet Kelly and Councilmember Myles  
**Guests Present:** Jeannie Shen, Jennifer Barnes, Connor Lee, and Asmara Habte

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m.

**II. Welcoming of Guest** — The HRC made introductions and welcomed guests.

**III. Adoption of Meeting Agenda**

The HRC unanimously adopted the meeting agenda and the November meeting minutes.

**IV. Chair's Report**

**A. Administrative Updates**

Chair Proctor informed everyone that there are now three candidates awaiting appointments: Jeannie Shen, Jennifer Barnes, and James Pearce. She welcomed them and others to work with the HRC in the interim.

**B. Advisory Activities**

Community Survey — Chair Proctor stated that she had been informed that the community survey working group will present its survey proposal to the Mayor & Council on Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup> with the expectation that the survey will be released sometime this spring.

BCTF Report Response — Chair Proctor indicated that she is still awaiting a response from the City Clerk regarding this matter.

**V. MCRRC Liaison's Report**

Commissioner Olatoye summarized the last two MCRRC meetings. She indicated that her subcommittee discussed ideas for community outreach, specifically ways to discuss lynchings and extrajudicial killings. She also reviewed plans for

Remembrance Weekend, which will be held September 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>. The event will include soil collection, a marker placement, a mock trial, and discussions, including a debriefing by Coming to the Table.

**VI. Committee Reports**

**A. MLK Day Celebration Debriefing**

Liaison Kelly thanked everyone, including the student ambassadors, for their participation and assistance. She discussed overall participation and survey results, which were mostly positive.

**B. Diversity & Inclusion Initiative**

An initial project planning meeting was held yesterday, January 26<sup>th</sup> with some participants. Another planning meeting will be scheduled within the next week or so to further develop their project plans and hopefully get more students involved.

**C. Multimedia Scholarship Competition**

The competition information has been published on the HRC webpage, and promotion has started. The deadline for submissions is Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. The committee is currently seeking an educator and a community leader to join the review panel, which will choose the winners.

**VII. Old Business**

Commissioner McIver summarized the Social Justice, Racism, and Bias discussion held during the January 25<sup>th</sup> Mayor & Council meeting. Five different initiatives were highlighted. Although not prioritized, the need to have every legislative item be reviewed under a social justice lens was also discussed. Action items will be compiled for tracking progress, and survey responses will be reviewed.

**VIII. New Business**

There were no new business items.

**IX. Announcements**

Asmara Habte stated that the MLK Day Celebration went pretty well and thanked everyone. She also stated that the logistics for the program will be handled by the Rockville Parks and Recreation Department in the future and that the program budget will be transferred to that department. No information regarding how this abrupt change would affect the HRC budget was provided.

**X. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

