

**ROCKVILLE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Cisco WebEx Conference
Wednesday, February 23, 2022
7:30 p.m.

Member Attendance: Amina Shafi Rogers (Co-Chair), Andrew Lin (Co-Chair), Oyebisi Olatoye, Gabrielle Zwi, Kindra Jones, James Pearce, Molly Cullen, Sinan Wolf-Gazo

Staff Liaisons: Ali Hoy

Student Ambassadors: Rokia “Riki” Doumbia, Anastasia Caruso

- I. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 7:37 pm.
- II. **Welcoming of Guests** – The Commission welcomed back two student ambassadors, Riki Doumbia and Anastasia Caruso.
- III. **Adoption of Meeting Agenda and Minutes** – Upon motion, seconded, and approved, the meeting agenda and November meeting minutes were adopted.
- IV. **Staff Report**
 - A. **Updates on Program of Events**
 - i. **“IDEA” Training – Diversity and Inclusion Workshop**
 1. Liaison Hoy reported that Rockville Reports will be publishing articles in the March and April editions to advertise event registration. The DEI Subcommittee has decided to change the name of the program to “IDEA” Training, which stands for “Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access” and is more inclusive terminology.
 2. Commissioners Jones and Olatoye have been developing an interactive curriculum with David Smith, who has run the program for the HRC in the past. David Smith will begin the event and will be followed by other speakers to assist with potential topics like social media and online gaming, discussions on race, the perception of schools post-COVID. Commissioner Zwi offered assistance in coming up with discussion topics relating to her work as a disability justice advocate at college.
 - ii. **Pride**
 1. The Pride Subcommittee shared that the HRC is planning a virtual event on June 5, 2022 with prompted breakout rooms and an in-person event to be held on June 26, 2022. Liaison Hoy said that Rockville Reports will be publishing articles in the March and April editions to advertise for event sponsors and performers.

B. Mayor and Council Presentations

i. Annual Report – April 4, 2022

1. Liaison Hoy reminded the commissioners that the HRC has been asked to make a 20-30 minute presentation to Mayor and Council about the Commission’s past work and future goals in serving the City of Rockville. Co-Chairs Lin and Rogers volunteered to present. Liaison Hoy mentioned that the list of presentation talking points would need to be submitted at the end of March.

ii. Budget Testimony

1. Liaison Hoy discussed the City’s budget season and shared that the Human Rights Commission or any Rockville resident can testify to Mayor and Council. The City Manager will present the proposed budget on February 28 and there will be three public budget hearing and various discussion through June 2022.

V. Chair Report

A. Board of Supervisors of Elections

- i. Co-Chair Lin reported on the joint project with the Board of Supervisors of Elections and the Asian Pacific American Task Force to explore ways to increase voter participation among the City’s Asian American population. The group has been meeting since December and set up voter registration tables at the City’s two Lunar New Year events that took place at F Scott Fitzgerald Theater. The group has been focusing on translation, registration and overall voter assistance at the polls.

- B. Co-Chair Lin recapped the HRC’s response to the Charter Commission’s questionnaire concerning potential changes to how the City conducts elections. Following distribution to and approval by HRC members, the HRC’s response was submitted on February 18, 2022.**

VI. Other Committee Reports

- A. No updates.**

VII. Old Business

A. HRC and HSAC Survey

- i. Co-chair Lin announced that the HRC and HSAC will present the survey results to Mayor and Council on March 7th. Liaison Hoy also mentioned that the Human Services Advisory Commission would be testifying at the budget hearing and also presenting their annual report, which could be useful for those who want to assist with future presentations to Mayor and Council.

B. Montgomery County Reconciliation Commission

- i. Commissioner Olatoye provided an update on the County’s Reconciliation Commission, which met in February and plans to meet again in May.

VIII. New Business and Announcements

- IX. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.**