



ROCKVILLE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

July 26, 2023

7:30 PM

Virtual Meeting via Cisco WebEx

MEETING MINUTES

Members: Andrew Lin, Gabrielle Zwi, Sinan Wolf-Gazo, Molly Cullen, Rachel Blomquist, Rebecca Murphy, Amy Frieder, Amina Shafi-Rogers, Peyton Hawkins

Mayor and Council Liaison: Councilmember Dr. David Myles

Staff Liaison: Tyree Davis IV

Guests: Karyn Miller, Amanda Bosland, Anne Day Leong, Richelle Wilson

I. Convene and Welcome

- a. The meeting was convened at 7:33.
- b. Welcome Guest(s)
 - i. The Commission welcomed guest from City Staff, Rockville Economic Development Inc., and Community Residents.
- c. Approve Minutes/Agenda
 - i. The Commission, upon motion Commissioner Murphy, seconded by Commissioner Frieder, moved to accept the agenda and minutes were approved.

II. Staff Report

- a. Updates
 - i. Karyn Miller introduced herself as the City of Rockville's newly hired Arts, Culture, and History Program Manager and shared background about her position, opportunities for connections, and her vision for the future of Arts, Culture, and History throughout Rockville
 - ii. Liaison Davis requested commissioner volunteers to work with Special Events to start planning the annual MLK Celebration. Commissioners Lin, Wolf-Gazo, and Cullen volunteered.
 - iii. Liaison Davis asked Commissioner Hawkins for clarification on the MCCRR's plans for the ceremony in November. Commissioner Hawkins confirmed the intended site as the Council Office Building at 100 Maryland Ave, Rockville, Maryland, 20850. Liaison Davis noted that additional follow-up discussion would be necessary to organize logistics.
 - iv. Liaison Davis reported that there will be a new commissioner starting next month. This leaves one vacancy on the commission.

b. REDI

- i. Ms. Wilson and Ms. Bosland gave an overview of the Rockville Economic Development Inc. and encouraged opportunities for collaboration.
- ii. She shared several resources:
 1. REDI: <https://rockvilleredi.org/>
 2. MWBC: <https://marylandwbc.org/>
 3. Explore Rockville: <https://explorerockville.org/>

III. Co-Chair Report

- a. HRC New Year
 - i. There was discussion around the topic of reworking the HRC charter in the code.
 - ii. Co-chair Lin noted that officers' terms were expiring and that interested individuals should submit their nominations for the upcoming year.
 - iii. Vice-Chair Zwi nominated herself for one of the chairs positions
- b. Commission Annual Report
 - i. Co-chair Lin reported on preparation of the annual report to the Mayor and Council, potentially planned for some point in December after the new Mayor and Council are seated.
- c. Positions and Subcommittees for Upcoming Year
 - i. Co-chairs are going to circulate subcommittees for next year, with assignments to be made at next month's meeting.

IV. Other Committee Reports

- a. Current Affairs
 - i. Commissioner Cullen and Councilmember Myles provided an update on the Seven Locks Restoration Center, which the County is now describing as a "Diversion Center." She reported on the community meeting the County held on July 20. The County is convening a "stakeholder engagement team" comprised of representatives from the County, the Seven Locks Alliance, and the recovery community; that group will begin meeting in September.
 - ii. The sub-committee then discussed recent protests against Montgomery County Public Schools cessation of the program that allowed parental opt-out of instructional materials concerning LGBTQ+ individuals. The sub-committee will continue to monitor the situation.
- b. Montgomery County Commission on Remembrance and Reconciliation (MCCRR)
 - i. Commissioner Hawkins had no further updates.
- c. Student Ambassador Project
 - i. Co-chair Lin noted that certificates of appreciation should be issued for participating student ambassadors.
 - ii. Website for student ambassadors
 1. Vice chair Zwi will review the Google form and wait to see if anyone has additional feedback from last year.

V. Other Business and Announcements

- a. None.

VI. Adjournment

- a. Upon motion made by Commissioner Mullen, seconded by Commissioner Blomquist, the meeting was adjourned at 8:47.