

ROCKVILLE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
Cisco WebEx Conference
Wednesday, July 28, 2021
7:30 p.m.

Attendance: Andrew Lin, Bethany Pereira, Gabrielle, Zwi, Kindra Jones, Janet Kelly, Kaoru Sakabe, Oyebisi Olatoye, Katrina Carter (Our new member at 755p took some time to introduce herself.)

I. Call to Order -7:34p

II. Welcoming of Guests

A. **Ali Hoy.** She works in Janet's department. Janet's last day is Friday June 30th as Janet is retiring.

III. Adoption of Meeting Agenda and Minutes- July Agenda and June meeting minutes adopted.

IV. Chair's Report

A. Brief Introductory Statement

i. Andrew Lin introduces himself as interim chair.

B. Update on Commission Vacancies

i. 3 vacancies and one vacancy has been filled.

C. Annual Program of Events

i. Andrew presented our five main programs that we have done in the past and stated that in this year of transition that perhaps we should focus on those.

1. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: January 17, 2022

a. 50th city celebration and while Parks and Rec will now control logistics we will be in charge of programming.

2. Rockville Pride: ~June 22, 2022

a. Funding is still being sorted.

3. Student Ambassador Program: Fall 2021 through Spring 2022

a. Fairly new program that has been around. 1-2 years.

b. Andrew suggests that we maintain our current structure and work will need to begin soon.

4. Multimedia Competition: Spring 2022

5. Diversity & Inclusion Initiative: Fall 2021 and ongoing

a. It has evolved into ongoing projects.

ii. Andrew proposed that these be our main events and we add additional events on a case-by-case basis.

1. Motion to approve the proposed calendar passes.

D. Committees and Commissioner Roles

- i. We will have a committee to manage each program.
 1. Bisi and Kindra volunteer to do Diversity and Inclusion Initiative.
 2. Bethany volunteered for the Multimedia Competition and Student Ambassador
 3. Gabrielle volunteered for Pride and Student Ambassador
 4. Kindra volunteered for the MLK Day event.
 5. Kaoru volunteered for student ambassador program in the chat of the webex.
- ii. Andrew suggested the formation of a membership committee focused on recruitment, overseeing appointment process and managing membership termination.
 1. Kindra volunteered to participate.
- iii. Andrew also proposed someone to track human rights or civil rights issues at the city, county and state level.
 1. Bethany volunteered to participate.
- iv. Andrew mentioned a Commission Liaison for some of the other commissions in the same manner that Conner Lee occasionally attends our meetings.
 1. Kaoru and Gabrielle volunteered.

V. Staff Report

A. Introduction to New Liaison

- i. Ali Hoy works in the Housing and Community Development Division and will be taking over as our liaison. She also helps run some the grant programs that the city has.

B. Annual Report

- i. The Council would like to hear reports from all of their commissions and that includes accomplishments from last year. The reports will happen over a course of meetings.

C. Hate Has No Place Here

- i. Mayor and Council will be voting on a resolution. Mayor and Council want to address social justice issues and show that the city is free of bias.
- ii. The draft was presented to us and it is to be discussed September 13th
- iii. Andrew requested that Ali send and circulate it to the commission for review.
- iv. Andrew stated that then we could all circulate comments for review.
- v. Ali suggested that due to the timeline of the Council, it would be ideal for us to get comments by Friday July 30th to the Council.
- vi. Andrew stated that everyone should submit comments by end of day on July 29th.

D. Budget

- i. We will have to raise 5000 for Pride
- ii. We received money for the multimedia completion.

E. Pride and Multimedia Competition Updates

- i. Raja was the first-place winner.

- VI. Presentations and Summaries
 - A. Diversity and Inclusion Project Summaries
 - i. None Provided.
 - B. Pride Program
 - i. Janet spoke about the discussion program that occurred for 2021 Pride which was held virtually.
 - C. Multimedia Scholarship Competition
 - i. Again Raja came in first place.

- VII. Old Business
 - A. HRC and HSAC Survey
 - i. Andrew really wants to increase participation with awareness. Please contact him to volunteer.
 - B. Montgomery County Remembrance and Reconciliation Commission
 - i. Provided Update of last meeting. Update provided to county council of activities at last meeting on July 27.

- VIII. New Business
 - A. Andrew solicited expressions of interest for a new permanent chair.
 - B. If you are interested in being Chair (or Vice Chair), please submit a statement of interest between now and the August meeting. If there are submissions, then we will select the chair at the August meeting.

- IX. Announcements
 - A. Janet said thank you for working with her.

- X. Adjournment - 8:46p