

Raul Torres Executive Director

May 8, 2025

Minutes of April 10, 2025 Human Rights Commission James J McCoart Building – Board Chambers

Human Rights Commission

Curtis Porter, Chairman
Evelyn BruMar, Vice Chair
Ramunda Young, Parliamentarian
William A. Johnston, III
Padreus D. Pratter
Benjamin Baldwin
Victor L. Ginoba, Jr.
Kimberly Sparkes
Victoria D. Staubly

MINUTES

ChairMembersCurtis O. PorterWilliam JohnstonVice ChairKimberly SparkesEvelyn BruMarPadreus D. PratterParliamentarianVictoria D. StaublyRamunda YoungBenjamin BaldwinVictor L. Ginoba, Jr.

<u>Present</u>: Commissioners: Benjamin Baldwin, Kimberly Sparkes, Padreus Pratter, Victoria Staubly, Vice Chair, Evelyn BruMar Chair, Curtis Porter, Director, Raul Torres, Assistant Director, Shelia Venning, and Administrative Specialist Tiffany Jones.

Chair Porter called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Citizens Time

There were no citizens present.

Old Business

The minutes of the February 13, 2025, meeting was approved (Baldwin moved/BruMar – seconded), unanimously.

New Business

- Resolution to Declare, Affirm, and Recognize April 2025 as Fair Housing Month (Baldwin moved/BruMar second). The resolution passed 6/0.
- Resolution to Declare, Affirm, and Recognize the month of May 2025 as Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Month (Baldwin moved/BruMar second). The resolution passed 6/0.
- Resolution to Declare, Affirm, and Recognize the month of April 2025 as Arab American Heritage Month (Baldwin moved/Staubly second). The resolution passed 6/0.

 A discussion was held to change the HRC meeting time. The commissioners present agreed by consensus to a 7 PM start time. The Chair requested that staff contact the commissioners who were not present and query them whether a 7 PM start was good for them.

Committee Reports

Unity in the Community

Nothing to report.

Jail Board

- The next Jail Board meeting will be held on May 21, 2025.
- The average number of inmates held in the detention center in January was 522, 532 in February, and 548 in March. The center is operating under capacity.
- There were 10 transfers of inmates for January, and 5 transfers in February 2025.
- 522 were committed in January, and 474 were committed in February 2025.
- 540 inmates were released in January, and 484 inmates were released in February 2025.
- The new Superintendent of the Adult Detention Center, Allen West, will present to the Human Rights Commission at its May meeting.

Racial Social Justice Committee

- Nothing to Report.
- The meeting scheduled for March 20th was cancelled.

Student Leadership Council

- Cohort 9 has concluded with the graduation, which was held on Thursday, April 3rd.
- 52 students graduated from Cohort 9 on April 3rd.
- Guests attending the graduation included: Supervisor Victor Angry, Superintendent of PWC Schools, Dr. McDade, CXO of PWC Government Chris Shorter, and Commissioners BruMar, Staubly, and Ginoba.
- A memory book memorializing activities during Cohort 9 will be released next week.
- The office will request that Carolyn Custard be reappointed as the school liaison for Cohort 10.
- Overall, Cohort 9 was deemed a success!

Director's Report

- The Human Rights Office will conduct a "Fair Housing for All" virtual webinar on April 23rd at
 6:00 PM to commemorate Fair Housing Month. The webinar will feature:
 - Barksdale Haggins from Fairfax County Government, who will provide an overview of the Fair Housing Act.

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- Mahalia "Mally" Dryden-Mason from Loudoun County will present case studies and examples of housing discrimination.
- O Joan Duckett from Prince William County Housing and Development, who will provide resources for assistance and support.
- Following the webinar, the Office will distribute the quarterly newsletter in May, focusing on Fair Housing.
- The Human Rights Office will be conducting Fair Housing testing on the western end of Prince William County this fiscal year.
- Director Torres will participate in Fairfax County's Fair Housing Summit, which will be held on May 20, 2025.

COMMISSIONER'S TIME

<u>Kimberly Sparkes</u>—On April 23rd, Commissioner Sparkes will host a Roundtable discussion at the Montclair Library focusing on housing and utility resources for residents of PWC.

Padreus Pratter - Nothing to report.

Benjamin Baldwin – Nothing to report.

<u>Victoria Staubly</u>—The Ordinance training is scheduled for April 30th in the Human Rights Office. As a member of the transgender community, she expressed her hopes of being a resource for the commission.

<u>Evelyn BruMar</u>—The Prince William Chamber of Commerce, Volunteer Prince William, and several other nonprofit organizations hosted a Community Summit to recruit more volunteers.

<u>Curtis Porter</u> – The Chief of Police and PWCPS would like to collaborate with the HRC to address the hate/bias issue in Prince William County.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 pm.

ACTIONABLE ITEMS

	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	DUE DATE	STATUS
Query the absent commissioners on changing the	Tiffany Jones	4/30/2025	Completed. 4/23/2025
commission start time.			

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION CHARGES AND OUTCOMES FOR APRIL 2025

	Case Closures	Cases Opened	Inventory
Employment	6	1	
Housing			
Public Accommodation			
Education			
Credit			
TOTAL			24