

FREDERICK COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

CITIZENS SERVICES BUILDING

401 Sagner Ave.

Frederick, MD 21701

November 30, 2021 Meeting

- I. A virtual online meeting was held and called to order by Mari Lee.
- II. The following members and others were present: Mari Lee, Annette Breiling, Cindy Shubin, Irene Packer-Halsey, Chris Isleib, and Roger Sobkowiak. FCPS Liaison Dana Falls, Human Relations Department staff members Pat Fleet and Miles Ward and guest Elizabeth Barrett.

The guest speaker was Elizabeth Barrett from FCPS she said the primary focus was to get students back to school. The trauma that we are all felling is having an impact on students and staff. Having most students back in school while others are still at home is a lot of work. Filling the achievement gap and trying to balance those challenges is tough. Lack of staff has been a challenge. There is a bus driver shortage as well as other staff. There is a lot of talk about what school should look like right now. The focus is on staff retention and that students are whole and well.

- III. Officers' reports
 - a. The Treasurer Chris Isleib reported that the current balance of HRC funds is \$3,816.21
 - b. The executive committee met and set the agenda for this meeting.
- IV. Standing Committees
 - a. CRC – They are working on a forum on Environmental Justice for February 2022.
 - b. GRC – The GRC has been tasked with looking into the issue of reparations and what if anything the HRC could be involved in and reporting back to the HRC at the January meeting.
 - c. IRC – no report
- V. Liaison Reports:

Dana Falls from Frederick County Public Schools reported that they expected that students would return with some difficulties and they are working hard to address them.

VI. New Business

A discussion was held about Reparations however no actions were taken because of the lack of quorum. Some of the ideas discussed were the Greenbelt referendum, work being undertaken by other cities and counties. Suggestions by HRC members were the possibility of asking the county council to appoint a study group, start by involving a county council member and to hold a forum to find out where the community members stand and make sure all of the groups are included.

VII. Old Business

- a. Hate Has no Business Here Campaign will continue in 2022.
- b. The HRC is one of the sponsors of the Beloved Potluck this year being held virtually on January 17.
- c. The HRC will be one of the sponsors for the MLK Day of service being held on January 17.
- d. Human Rights Day Lunch – the original speaker canceled and there is a search for another one or it may have to be postponed.

VIII. Miles Ward reported that since the last meeting he has received 3 complaint calls. Of those calls; one involved disability, one public housing and one involved an employer.

IX. Members that chose to do so gave brief comments.

X. The meeting was adjourned.

These minutes were prepared by the Human Relations Department.