

FREDERICK COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

CITIZENS SERVICES BUILDING

401 Sagner Ave.

Frederick, MD 21701

Minutes of the October 29, 2019 Meeting

- I. The meeting was held at Winchester Hall, and called to order by Vice Chair Lisa Clark. An invitation was extended to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. The following members were present: Lisa Clark, Annette Breiling, Francisco Alves, Lee Whisner, Chris Isleib, Roger Sobkowiak, Cindy Shubin, and Georgette Hughes. Members Irene Packer-Halsey, Paula Glascoe, Desiree Tucker, Michael Baran and Mari Lee were not present. Guest speaker Rick Weldon, staff member Miles Ward, City liaison member Ben MacShane and FPD Lt. Joe Hayer were in attendance. HRC applicants Greg Semfer and Teresa Hennessy were also present.
- III. Rick Weldon, the President and CEO of the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce spoke about the chamber's history, its diverse board and membership, and its commitment to ethics and integrity in business and government. It has over 900 members, and the category of business with the largest number of members is 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations. 90 percent of members come from small businesses and organizations. In late August of this year the chamber hosted four events that recognized the leadership of women. Mr. Weldon said that if the HRC wanted to undertake a "No Hate Here" program the chamber would consider helping.
- IV. Executive Committee Report

Annette Breiling reported there is \$4,428.00 available to the HRC.
- V. Standing Committees

CRC – The producer of *The Tale of the Lion* has agreed to show a 40 minute version of the film at the youth forum on December 11. Food will be provided. All HRC members are invited, and the United Way will help reach out to young people in the community.

GRC – At the Human Rights Day lunch on December 10 there will be speakers, questions from the audience and table discussions led by HRC members. The GRC understands it is responsible for setting everything up and taking everything down. GRC members have also been discussing proposed changes to the Frederick County Code that will be submitted in written form at a later date.

VI. Liaison report.

Ben MacShane reported that the City is changing its hiring and promotion policies to increase diversity. All job postings will now be open to the public at large. There will no longer be any recruitments limited to current city employees. Procurement policies are also under review, and additional funding for this has been approved.

VII. New Business

The HRC Naturalization Ceremony will be November 5, 2019.

VIII. Members who chose to do so made brief final comments.

IX. The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes prepared by Human Relations Department staff.