

FREDERICK COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

CITIZENS SERVICES BUILDING

401 Sagner Ave.

Frederick, MD 21701

August 31, 2021 Meeting

- I. A virtual online meeting was held and called to order by Chair Mari Lee.
- II. The following members and others were present: Mari Lee, Lisa Clark, Annette Breiling, Cindy Shubin, Veronica Lowe, Irene Packer-Halsey, Lee Whisner, Chris Isleib and Roger Sobkowiak. Keith Merkey with the Maryland Commission on Civil Rights, and Human Relations Department staff members Pat Fleet and Miles Ward.
- III. The guest speaker was Willie Mahone, president of the Frederick chapter of the NAACP. He presented information regarding reparations, including that the word “reparations” means to repair or make things right. House Bill HR40 has been pending in Congress for over 10 years. It will soon be eligible for house vote. This bill establishes a Commission to study and develop reparation proposals for African Americans. The commission should also examine slavery and discrimination in the colonies and the United States from 1619 to the present and recommend appropriate remedies. Mr. Mahone spoke about several local cities that are doing their own independent studies.

Chair Mari Lee excused herself from the meeting and Vice Chair Lee Whisner took over presiding over the meeting.

- IV. Officers’ reports
 - a. The Treasurer Chris Isleib reported that the current balance of HRC funds is \$4,066.71.
 - b. The executive committee met and set the agenda for this meeting.
- V. Standing Committees
 - a. CRC – no report
 - 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 October meeting.
 - c. IRC – no report

- VI. Action items:
- a. Membership – The county will open up a period soon where they will accept membership applications for Boards and Commission. Pat Fleet will send out that notification as soon as it is released. Please share with individuals you think would be an asset to the commission.
- VII. Miles Ward reported that since the last meeting he has received 4 complaint calls. Of those calls; two involved employer and two regarding housing.
- VIII. Members that chose to do so gave brief comments.
- IX. The meeting was adjourned.

These minutes were prepared by the Human Relations Department.