

**State of Maryland Commission on Civil Rights
Commission Meeting
December 8, 2020 – 10am
Meeting Held by Google Hangouts Meet
MINUTES**

Commissioners Present: Gary C. Norman, Esq., Chairperson; Roberto N. Allen, Esq., Vice Chairperson; Eileen M. Levitt; Gina McKnight-Smith, PharmD, MBA; Rabbi Binyamin Marwick; Allison U. Dichoso, Esq.; Jeff Rosen; Janssen E. Evelyn, Esq.

Management Present: Nicolette Young, Assistant Director; Glendora C. Hughes, General Counsel

Staff Present: S. Spencer Dove, Executive Associate; Kara N. Hunt, Ph.D., Director of Education & Outreach; Awilda Peña, Intake Supervisor; Melissia Dorsey, Investigative Supervisor; Alesha Bell, Investigative Supervisor; Maria Andrews, Civil Rights Officer

Meeting called to order at 10:03am

- Motion to approve the November, 2020, minutes made by Chairperson Norman, seconded by Vice Chairperson Allen; motion carried unanimously.

Briefing and Update on the Strategic Planning Process

- Consultant Margot Hoerrner, Principal at Rosedale Green Consulting, provided an update on the agency's current progress on developing the 2024 Strategic Plan.

Chairperson's Report

- Chairperson reviewed the agenda.

Assistant Director's Report

- Reviewed submitted written report.
- Agency is working diligently to fill all vacancies by the spring.

General Counsel's Report

- Reviewed submitted written report.
- Shared the update on landlord Henry T. Piper being found in contempt of court.
- Discussed further some of the bills and process for the 2021 Legislative Session.

Education & Outreach Director's Report

- Reviewed submitted written report.
- Currently working on the HUD Grant projects, including MEILP resources and updating MCCR's training modules.

Old/New Business

- Chairperson provided a review of the Board's work over the year.
- Chairperson reviewed the Board process documents that were updated and shared with the Commissioners in response to previous conversations at prior meetings.

Commissioner Dichoso recommends postponing any vote on Board process documents so that Commissioners have a chance to thoroughly review the contents.

- Commissioners engaged in a discussion about techniques that may be able to be adopted to further engage the public, and increase their participation in Commission meetings.
- Chairperson asks for Commissioners to submit any ideas for the Commission next year (issues to address, implementing the Strategic Plan, etc.) to him for next year. If a safe opportunity arises to have a meeting, the Chair also welcomes an exchange there.

Meeting adjourned 11:33 am.