

Montgomery County Government
Office of Human Rights
21 Maryland Ave.
Suite 330
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Meeting Minutes
of the
Human Rights Commission
Of 2012

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**Human Rights Commission
Montgomery County Office of Human Rights
21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 330, Rockville, Maryland 20850**

Draft HRC Meeting Minutes: Monday, June 25, 2012

Meeting Place: Silver Spring Civic Center, 1 Veteran Plaza, Silver Spring, MD 20910;

Commissioners Attended: Russell Campbell (chair) William England (vice chair), Barron Oakcrum, Betsy Jett, Jeremiah Floyd, Dr. Sajjad Durrani, , Selena Singleton, Ruth Martin, Matthew Murguia and Terri Vann; Tina Patterson; Doug Ryan

Commissioners Absent: Dr. Suresh Gupta; and Ruth Martin;

Commissioner Excused: Stacey Ormsby, Stephanie Mason;

Guest Speakers: Guled Kassim, Prajakta Kasbekar, Noelle Hile, Reemberto Rodriguez and Kaori Hirakawa, Roy Rivera and Josephine;

Staff attended: Director James Stowe, Loretta Garcia, Compliance Manager and Anis Ahmed, Staff Liaison.

1. Call to order:

- **Meeting:** Chairman Russell Campbell called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.
- **Agenda:** Committee approved meeting Agenda;
- **Minutes:** Commission approved minutes of April 23, 2012 meeting with minor amendments.

2. Listening Session, Comments and Concerns relating to Immigration: Introduced by Chairman Russell Campbell:

Speakers:

- Guled Kassim, Montgomery County Muslim Council
- Prajakta Kasbekar, Silver Spring Advisory Board,
- Noelle Haile, Impact Silver Spring: Multi-Cultural Community,
- Reemberto Rodriguez, Silver Spring Regional Center
- Kaori Hirakawa, Gilchrist Center for Cultural Diversity;

Speakers forum followed by questions and answers from the residents who attended the meeting;

3. Chairman's Report: Russell Campbell:

- In his closing remark, Chairman Russell Campbell thanked speakers representing from diverse communities;
- He also thanked County residents who attended the session,
- He requested all speakers to give him hard copies of their presentation transcripts;
- He requested to have unity among the communities as Montgomery County has become minority majority as population wide according to Census 2010 report;
- He strongly viewed that the "Unity Holds as Strength" when communities of diverse population unit together;

4. Director's Report: James L. Stowe:

- Gave a brief idea to the commissioners about the upcoming County Council Bill 19-12 after handing out the relevant materials;
- The Bill 19-12 that deals about the Human Rights and Civil Liberties – Displaced Service Workers was submitted by Council Members, Valerie Ervin, Craig Rice, Marc Elrich and Hans Riemer and Nancy Rivero for legislation;
- Urged the commissioner to attend the Council Hearing on this bill;

CRB Report: Loretta Garcia, Compliance Manager:

- Current caseload: 175,
- New intake: 18,
- Case accepted from intake: 4,
- Mediation: 6,
- Cases with investigators: 96,
- Management review: 33,
- Awaiting Director's final review: 2
- Post Determination: 16,
- Cases close in Fiscal Year: 275;

5. Committee Reports:

COHV: Matthew Murguia:

- He attended the COHV's last monthly meeting as a HRC representative;
- Ms. Creole Brown, a CERB member attended the COHV meeting to know about the COHV, how it operates and what type of agenda and issue this committee deals with;
- COHV has finalized and submitted it's CERB report;

Community Action Board: William England:

- CAB will have a Service Award ceremony followed by reception at VIS ART center in Rockville Town Center; Date and time will be announced later;

Commission on People with Disability: Betsy Jett:

- No report;

Committee on Fair Housing: Dr. Jeremiah Floyd:

- This committee did not have any decision making meeting due to lack of quorum;
- This committee had a discussion on how to develop Housing Survey questionnaire and how to execute survey;
- Also discussion held on drafting Fair Housing Compliance posters in English and Spanish versions;

Case Review Board: Loretta Garcia, Compliance Manager:

- She will forward cases to the CRB as soon as these become ready for review;

5. Old Business:

Forum on Immigration: Stacey Ormsby

- No report was made due to absence of committee chair Ms. Stacey Ormsby

6. *New Business:*

- Director James Stowe requested for an executive session;
- Commission went to a closed door executive session after the approval of Chairman Russell Campbell.

7. *Meeting adjourned:* at 8:15pm

8. *Meeting Minutes:* Prepared by Anis Ahmed, Staff Liaison, OHR.

Next meeting will be held on July 23, 2012 at 7:00pm

at the

Office of Human Rights Conference Room and

Mediation Center, 21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 330,

Rockville, MD 20852