

**Office of Equity and Civil Rights
Community Relations Commission
Virtual Meeting
Public Session Minutes
October 20, 2021**

Participating in the virtual conference were Commissioners Todd Yeary (Chair), Nadine Finigan-Carr, Phillip Farfel, and Stephen Ruckman. Also present were staff: Lisa Kelly (Supervisor).

I. Welcome/Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:08 pm.

II. Approval of the Minutes

A. The minutes and all action items were suspended due to lack of a quorum.

III. Director's Report

A. Ms. Kelly gave updates.

a. Appointments

i. 20 new applicants

b. Administration

i. Lauren Jackson moved to Mayor's Office of Recovery Programs.

ii. Nate Cohen begins Monday, October 25th as a PCO2 at OECR.

iii. Lisa Kelly has applied and accepted the position of Chief of Investigations.

iv. Staffing: new Deputy Director and new CRB Supervisor

v. VISTA Intern gave presentation on 8/19

c. Program areas

i. Zelma Ortiz is working on a training with Legal Aid. – 10/21/2021

ii. Staff trained on Fair Housing and Accessibility via the HUD Grant.

iii. EEOC training – if Commissioners are interested please let Ms. Kelly know.

iv. EEO contract successfully completed last fiscal year.

v. Staff working to reduce backlog – reduced by 8%.

d. Rescue Plan – update

i. Chair Yeary asked about the process

1. Note: follow-up will be with Director Moore

2. City's process

3. Timeline

ii. Commission would like more information on the Equity role.

- e. Commissioners discussed status of meetings scheduled with City Agencies.
- f. Commissioner Farfel recused himself from any Rescue Plan requests from MedStar.

IV. Commissioners' Report

- A. Commissioner Farfel introduced the Fund for Educational Excellence team. The report, "Not in Service" highlighted issues with public transit services for students.¹
 - a. Presentation by Schoenberg, Farfel, and Wyatt
 - b. Highlights
 - i. Student safety
 - ii. Transit service reliability
 - iii. Sexual Harassment
 - iv. Fights among adults
 - v. Lost learning time
 - c. Student recommendations
 - i. More buses
 - ii. Transit app
 - iii. Bus operators allowing students with lost cards
 - iv. Redline (east to west)
 - v. City of Baltimore and MTA program to address harassment

V. Open Forum

- A. The next meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2021 at noon via Teams.

There was no further business to discuss.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Drummond
Office of Equity and Civil Rights

¹ Schoenberg, C., Wyatt, K., & Farfel, R. (2021, June). Not In Service: Why Public Transit Must Aim To Serve Students (Rep.). Retrieved https://ffee.org/wp-content/uploads/FFEE_NotInService_2021_fsingle-Final.pdf