

**Office of Equity and Civil Rights  
Community Relations Commission  
Phone Conference  
Public Session Minutes  
June 17, 2020**

Participating in the phone conference were Commissioners Todd Yeary (Chair), Stephen Ruckman, Phillip Farfel, Adote Akwei, A. Adar Ayira, Stephanie Maddin-Smith, and Nadine Finigan-Carr. Also present were staff: Raemond Parrott (Director), Cedric McCray (Deputy Director), Lisa Kelly (Supervisor), Danielle Burton, Zelma Ortiz, Carla Royal, M'balu Bangura, Sharonda Huffman and Hugh Scoggins.

I. Welcome/Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at approximately 12:21 pm. Chair Yeary confirmed that a quorum had been established.

II. Approval of the Minutes

A. May 20, 2020

- a. It was moved and seconded by Commissioners Ayira and Farfel that the May 20, 2020 Public Session Minutes be approved as submitted. All were in favor and the minutes were accepted into record.

III. Director's Report

A. Deputy Director Cedric McCray gave event highlights from the Director's Report

- a. Data – as of June 12, 2020197
  - i. 197 open investigations
    1. 184 employment complaints
    2. 11 housing complaints
    3. 2 public accommodation complaints

B. No legislative updates

C. Staff would like to present an opportunity for a Commission-initiated complaint

- a. Chair Yeary tabled the discussion for the Executive Session.

D. Deputy Director McCray mentioned that there was a major case closure that would be discussed later

E. Director's Report will be forwarded to the Commissioners for review.

F. Chair Yeary asked about the status of the nominations to the Commission

- a. Deputy Director McCray stated that there were three candidates for the Mayor's Commission on Disabilities (MCOB) that were approved on 5/2/20.
- b. There has another group set for June 22 to include 2 CRC nominees.

- c. **Action:** Chair Yeary asked to verify that the 2 nominees were on the Agenda for 7/22/20. If it is not on the Agenda, he would like to be notified; and he will contact the Chair of Executive Nominations.
- d. Recognition of Investigator M'balu Bangura's by Supervisor Lisa Kelly and the Commission.

IV. Commissioners' Report

- A. Commissioners Farfel and Finigan-Carr gave their perspectives of the meeting with Commissioner Harrison.
- B. Chair Yeary gave highlights on the protests.
- C. **Add to Working/Planning Agenda:** Dr. Farfel would like an opportunity to discuss how the Commission can engage with the public and focusing on the Commission's responsibilities under Article IV to have public hearings to recommend policy and legislative changes.
- D. Chair Yeary reminded Commissioners that the next meeting is the Working and Planning Meeting.
- E. **Add to Working/Planning Agenda:** Commissioner Ayira would like to ensure going forward that the Commission is clear on their role in engaging the community in terms of:
  - i. the questions asked
  - ii. the framing of those questions
  - iii. how the Commission orders the process in terms of community voice

V. Open Forum

- A. Next meeting is scheduled for July 15, 2020 as working and planning session.

There was no further business to discuss.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Drummond  
Office of Equity and Civil Rights