Office of Civil Rights & Wage Enforcement Community Relations Commission Virtual Meeting Executive Session Minutes February 21, 2024

Participating in the virtual conference were Commissioners Todd Yeary (Chair), Amahl Foster, Yvette Ilechie, and Reynaldo Evangelista. Also, present were staff: Lisa Kelly (Chief of Investigations), and Danielle Burton (Supervisor). The meeting was called to order at 1:02 pm by Chair Yeary.

I. Approval of the Minutes

- A. Approval of the October 18, 2024 minutes was tabled until the next executive session meeting or until there is a quorum.
- B. Supervisor Burton explained Cardinal Health, and Chair Yeary placed a link in the chat. https://www.cardinalhealth.com/en.html

II. Executive Session

- A. Chair Yeary commented that the Action of Cases is for informational purposes.
- B. Chair Yeary noted the Notice of Right-to-Sue.

III. For Discussion

A. Atlas

- 1. Chief Kelly spoke about the Ouzo Bay case which was dismissed. She also spoke about the statements, testimony, and next steps.
 - i. The Commission can engage in talks with the Attorney General to see if there is anything on the State level.
 - ii. The Commission can talk with the Federal government or State government.
 - iii. Chair Yeary called for the Judge's opinion. It was placed in the chat <u>Kelly</u>, Lisa (Civil Rights): 2.7.2024 Opinion Russell.pdf
 - iv. Chair Yeary asked Chief Kelly for next steps and for the person who is handling civil rights in Annapolis. Chief Kelly will follow-up in their office.
 - v. Chair asked Chief Kelly to find out if the Commission can get advisement or ask for a review of the complaint under state law.
 - vi. Commissioner Foster spoke about the nature of the Ouzo Bay complaint.
 - vii. Commissioner Evangelista asked about how long this case was in litigation and who will benefit. Chief Kelly stated about July 2020. Chair Yeary responded that he would like the AG's opinion on whether the Commission should continue.
 - viii. Chair Yeary asked Chief Kelly about the public fund being used. She will find out.

B. Agency Hearings

1. Baltimore City Public Schools

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- i. Chief Kelly stated that Director Moore reached out to her connections, and they will only answer to the State.
- iii. Chief Kelly explained the option of a subpoena. Chair Yeary would like to add that option to the agenda to meet with the AG's Office.
- iv. Chair Yeary suggested the option of changing the agenda to include:
 - a. Disparate use of school police
 - b. Sexual discrimination and sexual assault
 - c. DOJ feedback
 - d. A complaint will be filed if the school does not respond, and the Commissioners agreed.
 - e. Commissioners weigh-in on the lack of response from city schools.
 - f. Hearing vs a meeting or closed session.
- v. Proposed date for the Hearing March 27th 2024
 - a. Chair Yeary stated that they need a full complement of Commissioners.
- vi. Chair Yeary asked Chief Kelly to send a copy of the Annual Report for commissioners to review. She will send out.
- C. The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2024.

There was no further business.

There being no further business, the Executive Session was adjourned at 1:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Drummond
Office of Equity and Civil Rights