Office of Equity and Civil Rights Community Relations Commission Virtual Monthly Meeting Public Session Minutes March 20, 2024

Participating in the virtual conference were Commissioners Todd Yeary (Chair), Nadine Finigan-Carr (Secretary), Amahl Foster, Yvette Ilechie, and Reynaldo Evangelista. Absent: Adote Akwei. Also, present were staff: Roland Selby, Jr., Lisa Kelly (Chief of Investigations), Danielle Burton (Supervisor), Andrea Pineda (Investigator), and Nate Cohen (Investigator).

I. <u>Welcome/Call to Order</u>

A. The meeting was called to order at 12:07 pm by Chair Yeary.

II. <u>Approval of the Minutes</u>

- A. Commissioner Foster moved to approve the October 18, 2023 Minutes, seconded by Commissioner Finigan-Carr. October 18, 2023 Minutes were approved with corrections.
- B. Commissioner Foster moved to approve the February 21, 2024 Minutes seconded by Commissioner Evangelista. February 21, 2023 Minutes were approved with corrections. Commissioner Finigan-Carr abstained from voting.

III. Director's Report

- A. Danielle Burton (Supervisor) gave the Director's Report.
 - 1. Events, Past and Upcoming:
 - i. Women's History Month Program March 22, 2024, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum.
 - ii. DHCD informational hearing April 24th at 6:00 p.m. City Hall, BOE Hyman Pressman Board Room. The hearing will also be broadcast live via Charm TV and accessible via Webex
 - iii. EEOC contract, which was currently set at 59, but has been reduced to 54 by the EEOC due to budgetary constraints on all FY24 contracts.
- B. Statistical Data
 - 1. Attachment: February 2024 Graphs data (attached). Figures 1-5
- C. Legislative Updates
 - 1. Bill No. 23-0438¹ introduced by Councilwoman Ramos on behalf of the administration, seeks to solidify the existence and operations of the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs. OECR to submit a letter of support.

¹ <u>City of Baltimore - File #: 23-0438 (legistar.com)</u>

- SB57²- Fair Housing Tester bill passed out of Senate Judiciary Proceedings committee – March 7, 2024, on a 9-2 vote with bipartisan support. Crossed over to the House for voting.
- D. Administrative
 - 1. Two Candidates had been interviewed Thursday, March 14, 2024.
 - 2. OECR administration had received additional interest letters and resumes for Board member consideration.
 - 3. Candidates will be interviewed within the next two weeks. Once interviews are completed, Director Moore will make her recommendations to the Mayor.
- E. Civil Rights Week
 - 1. Theme (Protest to Progress) Dates: October 6 12, 2024
 - 2. Supervisor Burton would like the CRC Commissioners to give feedback on what they would like to see for Civil Rights Week.
 - 3. Ms. Drummond will send information regarding feedback from the Commissioners.
- IV. <u>Commissioners' Report</u>
 - A. Commissioner Finigan-Carr asked to confirm that the Commission is no longer holding the March hearing. Chair Yeary stated that it is on hold and will be discussed in Executive Session.
 - B. Reminder: Hearing Cancelled: March 27, 2024
- V. Open Forum
 - A. Chair Yeary extended a welcome to Roland Selby (Chief Operations Officer, OECR).
 - B. Next Meeting: April 17, 2024 Regular Meeting
- VI. <u>Closing</u>

There was no further business to discuss.

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioners voted to adjourn at 12:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Drummond Office of Equity and Civil Rights

² Legislation - SB0057 (maryland.gov)

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Figure 1- CRC Statistical Data – Reported Discrimination

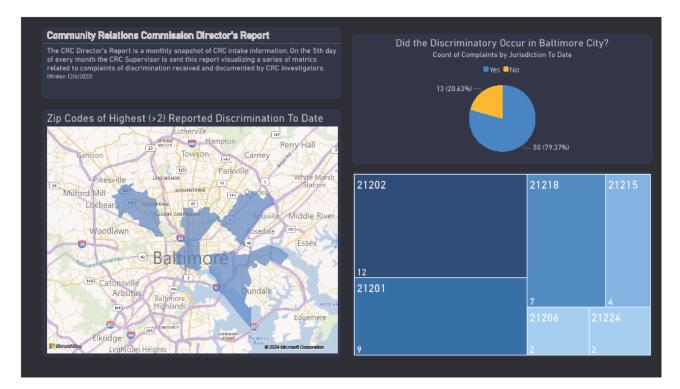
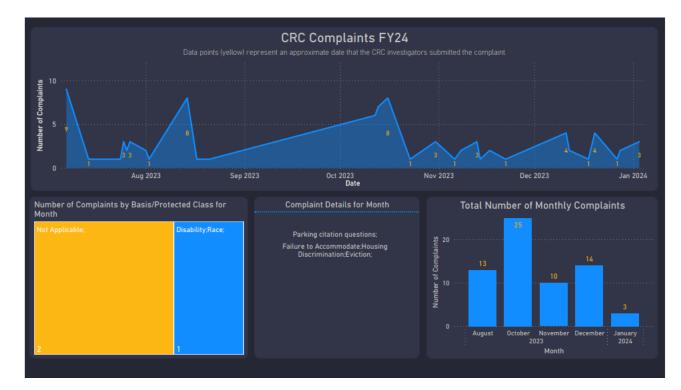


Figure 2-CRC Statistical Data – CRC Complaints FY24



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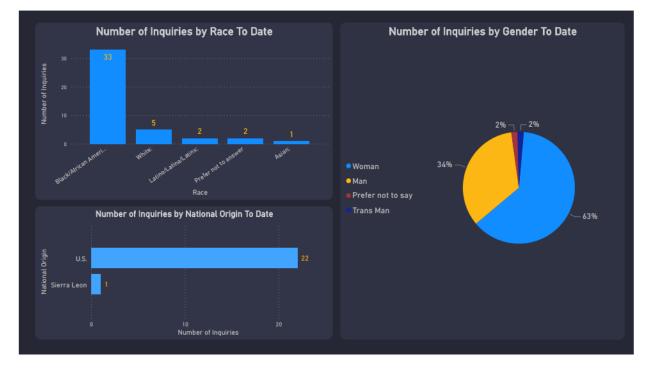


Figure 4-CRC Statistical Data - # of Complaints



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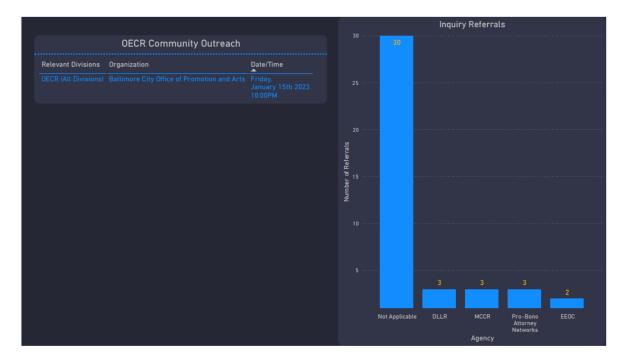


Figure 5-CRC Statistical Data – OECR Community Outreach