

**Office of Equity and Civil Rights  
Community Relations Commission  
Virtual Meeting  
Public Session Minutes  
September 20, 2023**

Participating in the virtual conference were Commissioners Todd Yeary (Chair), Nadine Finigan-Carr (Secretary), Adote Akwei, Amahl Foster, Yvette Ilechie, Deyo Johnson (via phone), and Reynaldo Evangelista. Absent: Commissioner Phillip Farfel. Also present were staff: Caylin Young (Deputy Director), Lisa Kelly Chief of Investigations, Danielle Burton (Supervisor), Zelma Ortiz (Investigator), Andrea Pineda (Investigator), and Nate Cohen (Investigator).

I. Welcome/Call to Order

- A. The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm by Chair Yeary.
- B. Commissioners reviewed and accepted the Public Session Agenda.

II. Approval of the Minutes

- A. Motion to approve the May 17, 2023 public session minutes made by Commissioner Evangelista and seconded by Commissioner Foster. Motion carried with 6 votes and 1 abstained – Finigan-Carr. The May 17, 2023 minutes were approved.

III. Director's Report

- A. Danielle Burton gave the Director's Report.
  - 1. EEOC contract ends – Staff is finalizing - September 30, 2023
  - 2. CRC and Equity Staff supported Hoes Heights community regarding their PUD amendment.
  - 3. CRC is partnering with the Women's Commission to present "The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act" – November 3, 2023
  - 4. CRC is partnering with Mayor's Commission on Disabilities to hold a Public Forum on "Disability Concerns: - November 3, 2023
  - 5. CRC Staff provided fair housing training to Project P.L.A.S.E.
- B. Chief Kelly gave an overview of Civil Rights Week
  - 1. Dates: October 27, 2023 - November 4, 2023
  - 2. Prayers for the City – October 27-29, 2023
  - 3. Annual Civil Rights Breakfast – October 30, 2023
  - 4. Mayor's Commission on Disabilities – October 31, 2023
    - i. ADA Summit for City Government – 10am
    - ii. Practical ADA Updates for Baltimore City and Beyond – 3pm
    - iii. Super Pedestrian Micromobility Demonstration – 5pm
    - iv. Public Forum: Disability Concerns – 5:30pm

5. November 1, 2023
  - i. Police Accountability Board
    1. Maryland Police Accountability Board Roundtable
  - ii. Children of the Baltimore Civil Rights Movement
  - iii. African Ancestry Identity Experience
6. November 2, 2023
  - i. Wage Commission and Staff
    1. Ensuring Compliance: A Deep Dive into City Wage Laws for Contractors
  - ii. Cannabis Equity, Rights and Reparations
  - iii. Critical Community Conversation about Race with Dr. LaMarr Shields
7. November 3, 2023
  - i. Women Leading in Baltimore
  - ii. Mayor's Luncheon with the Women's Commission
  - iii. The Pregnant Worker's Fairness Act of 2023

C. Data – Danielle Burton

1. Statistical data attached.

D. Legislative Updates

1. Bill No. 23-0414 – seeks to increase the number of days from 180 to 300 days to file a complaint with the CRC. – introduced on August 21, 2023.

E. Administrative – Danielle Burton

1. OECR has hired:
  - i. Samuela Ansah – Police Accountability Board Liaison
  - ii. Lana Ascuncion-Bates-Equity Trainer
  - iii. Marissa Crockett - Administrative Charging Committee Case Manager
  - iv. Martina Gardner - Administrative Coordinator
  - v. Jumel Howard – Community Outreach Coordinator
  - vi. Tashawn Smith – Administrative Charging Committee Case Manager
  - vii. Terri Lewis- Complainant Advocate
  - viii. Jill Muth-promoted to Manager, Women's Commission

IV. Commissioners' Report

- A. Commissioner Finigan-Carr – Youth Center for Violence Prevention – Open House on November 3, 2023.
- B. Commissioner Finigan-Carr emailed Ms. Burton regarding employment concerns being the reasons for some human resources cases. She suggested having a referral system. Chief Lisa and Dr. Finigan-Carr spoke about strategies with Baltimore Community Mediation. Ms. Burton will be meeting with the Baltimore Mediation Center to help with employment.

C. Commissioner Foster spoke about reentry and the resources to help returning citizens.

V. Open Forum

- A. Chair Yeary noted that the next Board meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2023.
- B. He noted execution of the items for the report can take place the following week.

VI. Closing

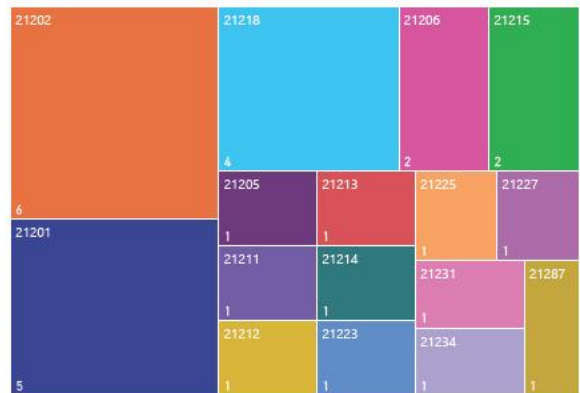
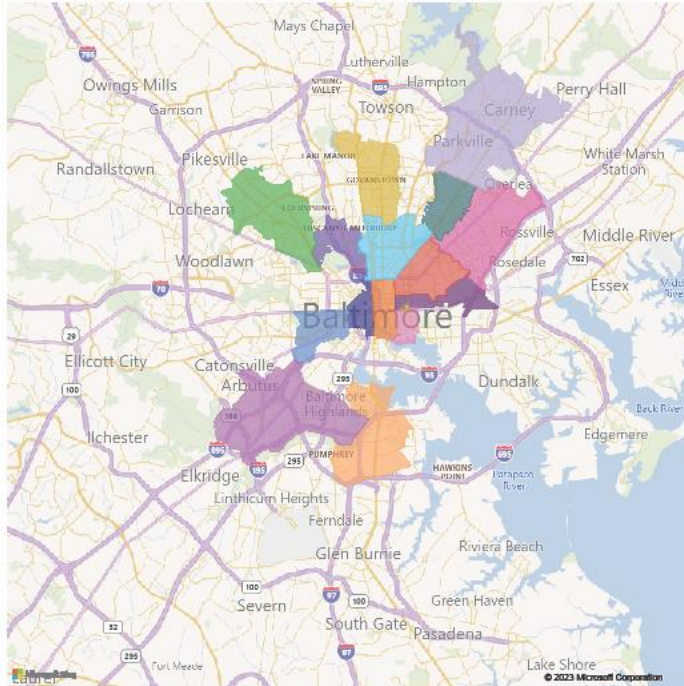
There was no further business to discuss.

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioners voted to adjourn at 1:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Drummond  
 Office of Equity and Civil Rights

Site of Reported Discrimination by Baltimore City Zip Code To Date



Did the Discriminatory Occur in Baltimore City?

