

**Office of Civil Rights & Wage Enforcement**  
**Mayor's Commission on Disabilities**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**February 24, 2021**

Participants:

1. Adam Levine – Law Dept
2. Amy Butwin – Dept of Human Resources
3. Carol Young (Acting Chair) – DGS
4. Curtis Black
5. David Greenberg – League for People with Disabilities
6. Dianne Blevins – Citizen/Office of Equity and Civil Rights
7. Jack Elam – Acting Co-Chair
8. Janice Jackson – Consumer Advocate
9. Jessica Salmond
10. Kendrick McLeod – Law Dept
11. Khary Davis
12. Keina Overton - BCDOT
13. Kimberly (Michelle) Grade – Employment Committee
14. Laetitia Griffin
15. Larry Ennels
16. Marlene S. Hendler
17. Martin French
18. Matthew Reeds
19. Phillip Cherry
20. Raymond Nyakoe – Access Committee
21. Rochelle Purnell – BCHD
22. Sharon E. Moore
23. Velma Early – Access Committee - Risk Management – ORM
24. William Brewer - BCFD
25. Willie Fields – Consumer
26. Yojinde Paxton - BCPS

Office of Civil Rights staff:

- a. Cedric McCray – Acting Director
- b. Sharonda L. Huffman – Accessibility Coordinator
- c. Hugh Scoggins – Program Compliance Officer
- d. Robin Drummond – Special Assistant
- e. Lauren Jackson – Investigator
- f. Lisa Kelly – Supervisor
- g. John Wesley – Public Information Officer

I. Welcome/Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Sharonda Huffman at approximately 1:05 pm. Acting Director Carole Young conducted the meeting after the Guest Speaker's presentation.

II. Guest Speaker

- a. Mrs. Sharonda Huffman, ADAC
  - Coronavirus Vaccinations

III. Director's Report

- a. Acting Director McCray gave the Director's Report
  - i. Fair Housing Month – April 2021 funded by a housing education grant
  - ii. Task force for vaccines in collaboration with the Baltimore City Health Dept
  - iii. VISTA program
  - iv. ADA training program – Acting Director Young, Mr. Scoggins, Ms. Huffman, Lauren Jackson, Partnership – MidAtlantic ADA Network – workshops
  - v. Equity Coordinators Workshop on ADA Accommodations – February 10<sup>th</sup>
  - vi. NAMI Advocacy Day Conference

IV. Approval of the minutes

- i. January 27, 2021 minutes approved and accepted with any necessary corrections.

V. Commissioner's Report and Open Forum

- i. Legislative Committee – Mr. Adam Levine highlighted Bills that are being monitored: 1) Senate Bill (SB199)/House Bill (HB114) regarding infrastructure for the MTA. 2) Senate Bill (SB567)/House Bill (HB731) requiring the Medicaid Program to reimburse telehealth services. 3) Senate Bill (SB209)/House Bill (HB724) regarding prolonged school closures and educational services during emergencies for students with disabilities as well as services after graduation. 4) Senate Bill (SB431)/House Bill (HB534) regarding establishing a state Board of Sign language interpreters. 5) Senate Bill (SB300)/House Bill (HB714) requiring an individualized continuity education plan that would provide services after graduation. 6) Senate Bill (SB313)/House Bill (HB119) requiring the MD Department of

Health to educate providers regarding cognitive impairments including Alzheimer's and Dementia (Bill passed). 7) Senate Bill (SB161)/House Bill (HB244) regarding establishing a task force to study access in mental health and higher education. 8) Senate Bill (SB388) repeals the requirement to pay parking fees. 9) Senate Bill (SB371)/House Bill (HB716) gives parents the right to request an independent education program examination. 10) Senate Bill (SB98)/House Bill (HB155) relating to County Boards of education in public and nonpublic prekindergarten programs and schools to impose discrimination on those who receive State funds.

- ii. Ms. Huffman is planning to have monthly newsletters.
- iii. Ms. Huffman did a demonstration on how to use the closed caption in the Teams platform.
- iv. Next meeting will be March 24, 2021.

There was no further business to discuss.

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. Carole Young adjourned the meeting at 2:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Drummond  
Administrative Coordinator  
Office of Equity and Civil Rights