

Baltimore County Human Relations Commission Meeting Minutes

Subject	Human Relations Commission	Date	October 9, 2024
Facilitator	Sevetra Peoples-Brown	Time	6:00 p.m.
Location	In-Person (Old Historic Court House)	Scribe	Ashley Elliott
<p>Attendees: Joan Bryan, Jason Blavatt, Jameel Muhammad, Sheila Lewis, Chrissy Thornton, Cecilia Myrick, Ashley Elliott, Bybiose Larochelle, Sevetra Peoples-Brown</p> <p>Absent: Michelle Greer, Danielle Marshall</p>			

No.	Topic	Highlights	Action Plan
1.	Welcome, Call to Order and Chairman's Report	<p>Sevetra Peoples-Brown opened the meeting and welcomed the members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Call to Order and Chairman's Report:</u> All were welcomed and thanked for their participation. This meeting will serve as Commissioner Blavatt and Commissioner Jameel's last in-person meeting. Commissioner Blavatt has served over 20 years with the commission as chairman and Commissioner Jameel has served nearly 10 years with the commission. We would like to thank them both for their individual contributions and service to the commission. 	
2.	Executive Staff Reports	<p>Sevetra Peoples- Brown-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Please review the By Laws- they have been 	Please review the presentation.

updated since our previous meeting. Please review, sign, and submit your Roles & Responsibilities Sheet as well as the Commitment Statement.

- Strategic Plan: We have finalized the strategic plan and will discuss the action steps for the strategies and goals. Please provide your feedback for the next Commission meeting.
- Hate Bias: We have been tracking the hate bias crimes since 2022, please review the report located in your presentations. This report tracks the incident and crime trends within Baltimore County.
- Closed Cases: We will review the formal business process for reviewing closed cases. We have provided the closed case statistics and a few cases that we have recently closed this year. Please review the closed case quarterly review cycle in your presentations.

3.	Commissioner District	Commissioner Lewis:	
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	Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We received an inquiry/complaint about the name of a Cigar Lounge being inflammatory. The business is a Cigar Lounge and has the name ISIS. The concern is that their establishment is in a predominate Jewish community. ○ Protest at Double tree during the Iranian land expo. One was arrested, and then they came to the precinct to protest. 	
4.	Guest Speaker	<p>David Skinner, Fair Housing Compliance Manager Department of Housing Community Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Assists with fair housing complaints that we receive within Baltimore County. ○ Currently assisting with the Housing Voucher Program- will be rebranding this program to incorporate the affordable housing concept. The program is currently being approved for over 1000 affordable housing units and working with other community organizations to assist with the approval process. These community organizations are also offering applicants legal aid services and assistance with residential complaints. The department also handles the housing complaints received for Baltimore County and many of these complaints are disability complaints. 	
5.	Questions and Feedback	No Questions or Feedback.	
6.	Closing Remarks	Thank you for your continued participation and we look forward to continuing to work with you all.	
7.	Adjourn	With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.	
8.	Next Meeting	November 13, 2024 (via WebEx)	

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