



MINUTES
 Tuesday, March 22, 2022
 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm
Virtual Meeting
 Via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT	STAFF
Frances Castillo	Sharron Hinton, Interim Director
Ana Garcia Turner	Melvyn Blackwell, Civil Rights Specialist
Dion Graham	Courtney McLaughlin, Intake Specialist
Michael Fath	
Shawnee Seese	
Allison Mahaley	
Special Guest(s)	
Amy Eckberg, Sustainability Program Manager	

MEMBERS ABSENT
Ellis Driver
Samantha Beecham (unexcused)

I. Call to Order

- A. Commissioner & Chair, Frances Castillo
 - i. Called meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

II. Minutes Approval

- A. Approval
 - i. *22 February 2022 & 3 March 2022*
 - 1. Motion by Commissioner Seese
 - 2. All were in favor of approving the February 22nd and March 3rd meeting minutes

III. County Updates

- A. Civil Rights Investigator, Melvyn Blackwell
 - i. The Chief Equity and Human Rights Officer position has been posted and shared in multiple platforms. Application close on Sunday March 27th.
 - ii. The State of Emergency for Orange County will come to an end on May 1, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. and all commissions will be required to meet in-person when it does. The Commission will need to begin meeting at the Animal Shelter as identified in the by-laws beginning with the May 24th meeting.

IV. Executive Committee Report

- A. Commissioner & Chair, Frances Castillo
 - i. *Orientation*
 - 1. Working towards getting all new members a copy of the Commissions policy and procedure notebook.

- ii. *Orange County Community Remembrance Coalition (OCCRC)*
 - 1. The Orange County Human Relations Commission (HRC) serves as a member/liaison to the OCCRC. Former, Human Rights & Relations director, Annette Moore, had regularly attended the OCCRC monthly meetings on behalf of the HRC but the HRC will need to identify a Commission member to attend going forward.
 - a. OCCRC meeting are held during the daytime on the first Wednesday of every odd numbered months for an hour and half to two-hours.
 - 2. Commissioner Seese has volunteered to represent the HRC at the OCCRC meetings.
 - 3. Upcoming Opportunities
 - a. OCCRC is planning to do programming around the 75th anniversary of the Journey of Reconciliation.
 - b. OCCRC is hosting a Community Book Read of the 1619 Project in partnership with Carolina K-12 and Flyleaf Books. OCCRC would like to explore how the HRC may facilitate some collateral programming potentially around Critical Race Theory.
- iii. *North Carolina Human Relations Commission (NCHRC)*
 - 1. Commissioner Castillo has been regularly attending the monthly meetings. The meetings are typically in the morning and can be up to four hours long. In order to continue participation, Commissioner Castillo would like to see if any other HRC members would be interested in attending the meetings. Commissioner Castillo will send an email to the Commissioners to identify who may be able to attend.
 - 2. NCHRC has been holding space to address evictions and working with local Human Relations Commission to develop solutions.
 - 3. Upcoming Opportunities
 - a. NCHRC will be holding a session on March 29th to discuss driver license restoration programming.
 - b. NCHRC will be seeking input to identify key issues that are important to local Commissions in order to develop strategies of support.

V. Climate Control Grant Award Application Revised

A. Current Considerations

- i. The Human Relations Commission is charged with revisiting the merits of the grant as it relates to the Social Justice and Racial Equity criteria and directing their recommendations to the BOCC.
- ii. Proposal
 - 1. CHCCS are requesting \$250,000 to install solar panels in three high schools (Chapel Hill High School, East Chapel Hill High School and Carrboro High School) to offset energy consumption, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and incorporate sustainability related educational content for CHCCS students.

B. Decision

- i. Commissioner Castillo motions for the Human Relations Commission to recommend a Social Justice and Racial Equity criteria score of three (3) on the CHCCS.
- ii. Motion approved with all commissioners in favor.
- iii. Commissioners agree to add additional commentary to the score stating:
 - 1. *We recognize there were some limits to the social justice component, which is why it was given a score of 3. We recognize that some of those limits were due to the*

challenges of COVID-19. We are encouraged by their efforts, and that they will be addressing this moving forward.

VI. HRC Events & Committee Reports

A. Committee Reports

i. *Pauli Murray Awards Committee* | Frances Castillo & Ellis Driver

1. Julie Cohen, co-director of *My Name is Pauli Murray* and Barbara Lau, Executive Director at the Pauli Murray Center in Durham will be holding a conversation and Q&A during the award ceremony.
2. Commissioner Castillo will be doing a blurb through WCHL on Wednesday, March 23rd.
3. Committee is still awaiting confirmation from a potential guest to participate in the panel.

ii. *Board Diversity Committee* | Ana Garcia & Dion Graham

1. Board Diversity surveys have been sent out and are due back to the commission by March 25th.

iii. *Communications Committee* | Frances Castillo & Ellis Driver

1. With the resignation of two commissioners, there are only two commission members remaining on the committee.
2. Committee hopes to regroup in April to figure out how to move forward.

VII. Other Business/Announcement/Upcoming Events

A. Commissioner, Shawnee Seese

- i. Interested to learn if the Commission has a 2022 Action Plan to gain more understanding of events and opportunities for the year. Would like to have a reference for roles, responsibilities, timelines, etc.
- ii. Commissioner Castillo, will supply Commissioner Seese with the annual work plan that is provided to the BOCC and the commission will revisit the conversation at a later time.

VIII. Adjourn

- A. Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Castillo at
- B. NEXT VIRTUAL MEETING: Tuesday, April 26, 2022 via [Zoom](#)