

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS**



**APPROVED MINUTES\*  
OFFICIAL COMMISSION MEETING**

September 13, 2023  
Via Zoom

Recording of Meeting:

[https://dc-  
gov.zoom.us/rec/share/\\_WVA0OcT0OKQJbeH0mbn7LmrmePZRvyrh0dViZCAN7KmVoJI7b8w1QZcs8KGpGNh.e  
F2mgArh78yiTIMY](https://dc.gov.zoom.us/rec/share/_WVA0OcT0OKQJbeH0mbn7LmrmePZRvyrh0dViZCAN7KmVoJI7b8w1QZcs8KGpGNh.eF2mgArh78yiTIMY)

 Passcode: ag9^TtSP

**ATTENDEES**

**Commissioners Present**

Motoko Aizawa, Chairperson  
Charlotte Clymer, Secretary  
Anika Simpson  
Robert Baldwin III

Maria Burnett  
Adam Maier  
Teri Janine Quinn  
Stuart Anderson

**Commissioners Absent:**

Karen Mulhauser  
Lauren Lowery

**Commissioner Candidates:**

Toni Wiley  
Henry Floyd, Jr.  
Colin Rettammel

**Office of Human Rights Staff**

James Yu, Associate Director of  
Communications and Equity Programs  
Hnin Khaing, Director  
Andrea Goplerud, General Counsel  
Ernest Shepard, Program Manager, Youth Bullying Prevention Program

**Commission on Human Rights Staff**

Brandes Ash, ALJ  
Rose Hayden, Law Clerk  
Matthew Wiedmayer, Law Clerk

**\*These minutes were approved by the Commission at its meeting on November 8, 2023**

## **MEETING**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

- a. Chairman Aizawa called the Commission's Official Meeting to order at 6:42 pm.

### **II. ROLL CALL**

- a. Secretary Charollette Clymer conducted the roll call.
- b. A total of 6 commissioners appeared at the outset of the meeting. All were present via telecommunication. A quorum was present. Two Commissioners later appeared, bringing the total to 8.

### **III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

- a. The agenda was adopted.

### **IV. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

- a. The meeting minutes were adopted by acclamation.

### **V. INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF AND COMMISSIONERS**

- a. James Yu, Associate Director for Communications and Equity Programs
- b. Antonesia Wiley, Commissioner
- c. Henry Floyd, Jr., Commissioner
- d. Colin Rettammel, Commissioner

### **VI. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

- a. OHR Director Hnin Khaing, gave the report, highlighting the following:
  - i. Enforcement: FY23 we are on target to reach our goals.
  - ii. Equity, Communication, and Compliance Programs: We have accomplished a great deal. Tipped wage worker's getting sexual harassment training, youth bullying prevention program, and we've secured a high number of voluntary compliance agreements. We have an incoming permanent IT contractor who will be starting Monday, September 18, 2023.
  - iii. New Law: Domestic Worker's Employment Rights Act will cover domestic workers, protecting them against discrimination. Adrea will talk more about that.

- iv. New Events: **September 19, 2023**, the Mayor will be hosting maternal and infant health summit at the convention center. **September 27, 2023** Human Rights training. **October 11, 2023**, there is a special training just for commissioners.

## VII. REPORT OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

- a. Judge Ash, in place of Chief Judge Pierson, gave the report on commissioner updates and case management.
- b. Closing Cases and Tribunals: There are several cases upcoming which will require tribunals to close. It's very important that we all work together to ensure that tribunals are scheduled promptly, that the commissioners are prepared when they show up to the tribunals, and that we do right by the parties in closing the cases efficiently.
- c. New Bills: Proposed bill which amends the DCHRA has a hearing in October. Another bill creates a commission which documents the black queer history in the district of Columbia.
- d. Case Inventory: There are 20 cases pending before the commission. There are several cases that will be closed in the next couple of weeks, so that number will change.

## VIII. Report of the Chair of Commission: Chair Motoko Aizawa

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Presentation: Youth Ambassador Program, **Ernest Shepard**
  - i. There is an idea for a Youth Ambassador Program at the commission, whereby a commissioner or two will take part in meetings and outreach to establish a Youth Ambassador Program. This program will educate youth on their protections available to them, enable them to participate in government, and empower them to educate their peers about human rights in the District.
- b. Legal Update from **Andrea Goplerud**
  - i. Domestic Workers Employment Rights Amendment Act has passed and starts October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Domestic workers are those who regularly provide childcare, elder care, cleaning and cooking services, and other household services. It did not make domestic workers a protected class – it removed the exception in the DCHRA that exempted domestic workers. So domestic workers are protected from discrimination now, with a small caveat: where sex is a qualification of the job, employers may

preferentially hire based on sex if there is no reasonable alternative and if there is a privacy concern.

ii. Sexual Harassment Data Collection Act – DC employers must collect data about sexual harassment complaints and report that data every year.

c. Introduction of Matthew Wiedmayer, Law Clerk

d. Voting on the Public Comment Policy

i. An error in the policy was fixed, and the fixed version of the policy was **ADOPTED**, with no nays.

e. Charlotte Clymer proposed a social event this fall for the commissioners.

f. October Commission Meeting: Virtual or Hybrid? (*If hybrid, in person at Met Square: 655 15th Street NW*)

i. Decided to be virtual, but there is some interest in hybrid.

## **X. OLD BUSINESS**

a. New and Reappointed (Aizawa, Mulhauser, and Quinn) Commissioner **Public Roundtable**: September 20, 2023, at 9:30 am **Watch live at:** <https://www.brianneknadeau.com/live>

b. Reminder: **Training** on 23 Protected Traits: October 11, 2023 at 6pm via Zoom, by Tyler Cargill

c. New Commissioner **Training Part I**: September 29, 2023, at 7pm via Zoom, by Chief Judge Pierson

## **XI. Committee Reports**

a. None

## **XII. VOTE TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to D.C. Code § 2-575(b)(7)**

a. A roll call vote was taken, and the commissioner voted to enter an executive session, which lasted approximately 30 minutes.

## **XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

a. After the executive session was complete, there were no announcements.

## **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

- a. The Commission's September 2023 public meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

**NEXT MEETING: November 8, 2023, at 6:30 PM – Virtual**

*This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at [opengovoffice@dc.gov](mailto:opengovoffice@dc.gov).*



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
BI-MONTHLY PUBLIC MEETING**

**A \* G \* E \* N \* D \* A  
September 13, 2023, at 6:30pm  
Zoom**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://dc-gov.zoom.us/j/81213715763?pwd=WkVwcUxiMHgxc3dpU3F0T09SN1E2dz09>

**Meeting ID: 812 1371 5763**

**Passcode: 697050**

**Dial In: 301-715-8592**

- I. CALL TO ORDER – Commissioner Aizawa, Chair
- II. ROLL CALL – Commissioner Clymer, Secretary
- III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
- IV. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES: July 12, 2023, Meeting
- V. INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF AND NEW COMMISSIONERS:
  1. James Yu, Associate Director for Communications and Equity Programs
  2. Matthew Weidmayer, Law Clerk
  3. Antonesia Wiley, Commissioner
  4. Henry Floyd, Jr., Commissioner
  5. Colin Rettammel, Commissioner
- VI. REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS: Director Hnin Khaing
- VII. REPORT OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE & COMMISSION CASE INVENTORY: Erika Pierson or Brandes Ash
- VIII. REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION: Motoko Aizawa
- IX. NEW BUSINESS
  - a. **Presentation: Youth Ambassador Program, Ernest Shepard**

- b. Legal Update from General Counsel Andrea Goplerud
- c. B25-0298: “**Black Queer History Commission Establishment act of 2023,**” Hearing on September 20, 2023, following Commissioner Roundtable, Erika Pierson
- d. Voting On the Public Comment Policy, Motoko Aizawa
- e. Commission Social Event This Fall, Charlotte Clymer
- f. October Commission Meeting: Virtual or Hybrid? (*If hybrid, in person at Met Square: 655 15<sup>th</sup> Street NW*)

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XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- No Reports

XII. VOTE TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION pursuant to D.C. Code § 2-575(b)(7)

- Discussion of 2023 Human Rights Award recipients

XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

XIV. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

**NEXT MEETING: November 8, 2023, at 6:30PM**

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