

MEETING MINUTES
ST. MARY'S COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
THURSDAY – AUGUST 21, 2014
HUMAN SERVICES CONFERENCE ROOM * POTOMAC BUILDING
LEONARDTOWN, MARYLAND

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 4:14 p.m. (This is a recorded meeting)

ROLL CALL – Members present were Joshua Brewster – Chair, Deborah Dennie, Sarah Tyson, and Exzavain Burkes. Joanna Colvin, Wayne Lockley, and Agnes Butler were excused. Department of Aging and Human Services staff members present were Kelsey Bush – LMB/Youth Coordinator and Amber Hebert – Office Manager.

SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSION –

- Breakfast – The volunteer appreciation/recognition breakfast will be held November 1, 2014 at the Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center in Leonardtown, Maryland. The commission discussed the entertainment and finalizing the catering menu. The commission discussed options for a guest speaker.
- Membership – The commission discussed the next appointment cycle for new membership appointment in December/January timeframe and the need for filling those vacancies.

DISCUSSION OF NEW BUSINESS –

- Emancipation Day Proclamation and State Emancipation Quilt Unveiling at the Maryland State House, Old House of Delegates Chambers on November 1, 2014 from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in Annapolis, Maryland. Quilt to be unveiled in the Old House of Delegates Room, inside of the Capital Building, immediately following the Proclamation. Maryland celebrates the 150th Anniversary of Emancipation from Slavery. This momentous event marked Maryland as the first slave state to voluntarily free its enslaved people by popular vote. One hundred fifty years ago on November 1, 1864, the Maryland State Legislature adopted a new state constitution, which emancipated Maryland's slaves. President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation of January 1, 1863 had only freed slaves in states of rebellion, of which Maryland was not one. During the Civil War, Maryland was a Union State in which slavery was legal. Maryland Emancipation Day was formally commemorated in 1865 in the City of Frederick and in 1867 in Trappe, MD, where Nathaniel Hopkins founded the celebration.
- The commission began preliminary discussions and planning for the annual southern Maryland Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Breakfast which will be held in January 2015.
- The Dominion Apostolic Church will host a community discussion on law enforcement and community relations on September 25, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in Lexington Park, Maryland.

CALENDAR –

- The commission confirmed future meeting dates for calendar year 2014: October 9, 2014 and December 11, 2014. These dates are published through the boards, committee, and commission meeting dates schedule at <http://www.co.saint-marys.md.us/docs/BoardsCommitteesCommissionsSchedule.pdf>.

- The commission will host a volunteer appreciation/recognition breakfast on November 1, 2014, 9:30 a.m. at the Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center in Leonardtown, Maryland. The cost is \$15.00 per person.

NEXT MEETING – October 9, 2014 in room 14 of the Potomac Building at 4:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT –

- A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 5:19 p.m., the motion passed.