

ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Joshua Brewster, Co-chair

Vante Burkes, Co-Chair

Kelsey R.M. Bush, Commission Liaison



COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY:

James R. Guy, President

Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner

Tom Jarboe, Commissioner

Todd B. Morgan, Commissioner

John E. O'Connor, Commissioner

St. Mary's County
Human Relations Commission
November 1, 2018
Division of Human Services
5:35 pm

Minutes

The purpose of the Commission is "to encourage and ensure equal treatment to all, without regard to race, color, religion, ethical or moral conviction, ancestry or national origin, sex, age, marital status or physical or mental handicap.

➤ **Call to Order:**

➤ Introductions/Check in

(Name, area of the county you live in, and what is interested you about Human Relations Commission work and how you are doing

➤ **Adoption of minutes for August 2018 meeting**

➤ **Old Business:**

a. **Meeting Dates**

2/7/19, 4/4/2019, 8/1/2019, 10/3/2019,

b. **Membership**

Currently two vacancies

Members will work on identifying members to fill these positions. At the meeting, G. Younger announced he was resigning due to a new job on the west coast. We wish you fair wind and placid seas.

c. **MLK Day Breakfast.**

This year's keynote will be presented by Ms. Maureen Bunyan. She is a veteran television news broadcaster and a former primary anchor for ABC7/WJLA-TV. Named a "Washingtonian of the Year" in 1992, Ms. Bunyan has an extensive record of service to the community. She is a founder and board member of the International Women's Media Foundation, which serves women in the media in 100 countries. She is a founder of the National Association of Black Journalists. She also serves on the National Advisory Board of the Casey Journalism Center on Children & Families, the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital Women's Advisory Board, the Advisory Committee of Women in Film & Video, and is a board member of Women of Washington. In recognition of her significant contributions to broadcasting for over 30 years, Ms. Bunyan has been inducted into the "Hall of Fame" of the Washington Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, "The Silver Circle" of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS), and the Broadcast Pioneers Club of Washington. She has been

awarded seven local Emmys as well as the "Ted Yates Award," given by NATAS to Washington, D.C. news broadcasters who are leaders in the profession. She was named "Journalist of the Year" by the National Association of Black Journalists. She received the annual "Immigrant Achievement Award" from the American Immigration Law Foundation in 2002. Ms. Bunyan attended the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Columbia University School of Journalism, and holds a Master's Degree from Harvard University Graduate School of Education. She was born in Aruba and grew up in Southeastern Wisconsin. She is of Guyanese descent.

d. Retreat: Recap

HRC has also partnered with the Mediation Center and other community organizations to convene community conversations and training opportunities around the topic of diversity, equity and inclusion.

In October 2018, the HRC members convened on a Saturday to strategize and prioritize for the coming year. The following are some ideas that were discussed in order to make the HRC more relevant in these turbulent times:

1. Serve as a neutral forum for investigating conflicts in the community, such as within the school system or county government.
2. On behalf of the Board of County Commissioner's assess the diversity, equity and inclusion environment within county government and issue a report and recommendations.
3. Partner with other human services organizations to convene public conversations regarding human relations and conflict resolution.

The HRC decided to focus on Item # 2 above. However, the HRC has yet to convene a committee to move this forward. New members were added in December 2018, so this discussion will be raised again at the first meeting of 2019.

e. November 4, 2018, Community Conversation 2-4

Trinity Luther Church is sponsoring a conversation on race

f. Groundwater, January 24, 2019, 2-8pm Higher Ed Center.

LMB is sponsoring this training, contact K. Bush.

➤ **New Business:**

➤ **Anything for the good of the order**

➤ **Check out/ Action commitments and how are you feeling?**

➤ **Adjournment :**

7:15 p.m.