

ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION**

Joseph Bush, Chair  
Cynthia A. Brown, *Commission Liaison*



Francis Jack Russell, President  
Kenneth R. Dement, Commissioner  
Lawrence D. Jarboe, Commissioner  
Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr., Commissioner  
Daniel H. Raley, Commissioner

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**St. Mary's County Human Relations Commission**  
**March 11, 2009**  
**Minutes**

**Attendees:** Joseph Bush, Jim Hanley and Patrice Gaymon

**Excused:** Theo Cramer and Rose Everett

**Absent:** Pam McKay and Joyce Dyson

**Staff Liaison:** Cynthia Brown, Community Services Division Mgr, Dept of Human Services

At 5:45 Chairperson Joseph Bush called the meeting to order, introduced new member, Patrice Gaymon and invited her to tell the members a little about her background and interest in the HRC.

**Staff Liaison:** Cynthia Brown gave the financial report. The Commission budget has a balance of \$2750. Historically, these funds have been used to cover costs associated with the Annual Awards Breakfast but the membership has decided not to have the event this year. The funds can be used through June 30 with remaining funds reverting back to the County's general fund.

**Study Circles Update:** A Study Circles on local race relations is scheduled to start in late March or early April for members of the community and the Sheriff's Office. Jim Hanley met with representatives from the Patuxent River Naval Air Station about the possibility of hosting a Study Circle for enlisted personnel. There was some interest, if approved by the Command staff. Currently, a Study Circle is coming to completion at Leonardtown Elementary School for staff and parents.

**Advisory Board Forum:** Discussion took place about invitees to the forum. Chairs from County Advisory Boards who address diversity issues will be invited. It was decided to extend the list of invitees to include the NAACP, Minority Business Alliance, Pax River NAS, and the UCAC. Jim Hanley agreed to draft an invitation letter to be sent in the spring with a follow up invitation in the fall. A specific date has not been determined yet.

**Community Awareness:** Cynthia Brown suggested the HRC coordinate brief presentations each month during the County Commissioner's agenda highlighting a specific culture or segment of the population (example: South Asian Heritage Month, Native American Heritage Month, etc...). Individuals and groups representing that specific population would have an opportunity to highlight contributions and/or challenges they face. Members present agreed to take on this project as a means of heightening awareness on diversity issues in the county.

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 1, 5:30pm Room 14

The meeting adjourned at 6:20pm

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Cynthia Brown*