

## **Minutes of the Fairfax County Consumer Protection Commission**

December 15, 2020

7:30 PM  
Zoom Video Meeting  
Chairman Fee presiding

Attendance:

Commissioners: Belkowitz, Callender, Fee,  
Hine, Kratovil, Kirk, Roark, Rosier

Absent:

Commissioners: Gulakowski, Hargraves, Javed,  
Lynch

Staff:

Michael S. Liberman, Director  
Cable and Consumer Services  
(Office Suite 433)  
Rebecca L. Makely, Director  
Consumer Services Division  
(Office Suite 433)  
Susan C. Jones, Branch Chief  
Consumer Affairs Branch  
(Springfield)

The electronic meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by Chairman Fee.

### **Quorum, Location, and Audibility of Members' Voices**

Chairman Fee conducted a Roll Call to verify that a quorum of members were participating; and that each member's voice was clear, audible, and at appropriate volume for all of the other members; and the location from which member was participating. The roll call was as follows:

Chairman Fee, Burke  
Commissioner Belkowitz, City of Fairfax  
Commissioner Callender, Great Falls  
Commissioner Hine, Fairfax  
Commissioner Kirk, Mason District  
Commissioner Kratovil, Mount Vernon  
Commissioner Roark, Lorton  
Commissioner Rosier, Great Falls

Chairman Fee passed the virtual gavel to Secretary Rosier. A motion was made by Chairman Fee that each member's voice was adequately heard by each member of the Consumer Protection Commission (Commission.) This motion was seconded by Commissioner Kirk. This motion passed 7-0 with Commissioner Callender not present for the vote.

### **Need for an Electronic Meeting**

A motion was made by Chairman Fee that the State of Emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic made it unsafe for the Commission to physically assemble and unsafe for the public to physically attend any such meeting, and that as such, FOIA's usual procedures, which require the physical assembly of the Commission and the physical presence of the public, could not be implemented safely or practically. Chairman Fee further moved that the Commission conduct the meeting electronically through a dedicated audio-conferencing line, and that the public access the meeting by calling 1-888-270-9936 and entering access code 584548. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kirk. The motion passed 8-0.

### **Need to Dispense with FOIA's Usual Procedures to Assure Continuity in Government/Continue Operations**

A motion was made by Chairman Fee that all of the matters addressed on the agenda addressed the Emergency itself, were necessary for continuity in Fairfax County government, and/or were statutorily required or necessary to continue operations and the discharge of the Commission's lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Kirk. The motion was passed 8-0.

### **Minutes**

A motion was made by Chairman Fee and the minutes from the November 17, 2020, were approved without objection.

### **Report of the Chairman**

The Chairman had no matters to bring before the Commission.

### **Report of the Director**

Director Liberman stated the Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, and Board of Zoning Appeals meetings have moved from in-person to electronic meetings. The budget season will begin soon, and details will be provided at the February 2021 meeting.

### **Commission Matters**

Commissioner Belkowitz reviewed a news Web site about the first COVID-19 vaccine and possible vaccine scams for consumers.

Commissioner Callender had no matters to bring before the Commission.

Commissioner Hine had no matters to bring before the Commission.

Commissioner Kirk thanked staff for information to address the leak in his basement.

Commissioner Kratovil had no matters to bring before the Commission.

Commissioner Roark had no matters to bring before the Commission.

Commissioner Rosier received a letter from Dominion Energy to disconnect the water heater from the junction box. Commissioner Rosier questioned if the letter was a scam. Staff will follow-up on the issue.

Chairman Fee had no matters to bring before the Commission.

### **Old Business**

There was no old business before the Commission.

### **New Business**

**Officer Nominations.** Chairman Fee selected Commissioner Kirk to serve as the Nominating Committee for the January 2021 Elections.

Chairman Fee mentioned the Trespass Towing Advisory Board (TTAB) is meeting this week to nominate the next Chair, which according to County and state code, a tow operator representative will be selected next in the rotation. TTAB is made up of two tow operators, two Fairfax County Police representatives, and one citizen member.

A discussion ensued on conflict of interest, Chair rotation, and possible legislation changes.

Director Liberman stated Fairfax County General Assembly Delegation's Pre-2020 Session Public Hearing will be held on Saturday, January 9, 2021.

Commissioner Belkowitz made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Kirk seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 PM.