

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

January 18, 2022

7:30 PM  
Video Meeting  
Chairperson Fee, presiding

Attendance:

Commissioners: Callender, Fee, Gulakowski, Hargraves, Kratovil, Roark, Rosier, Springer, Svab

Absent:

Commissioners: Belkowitz, Kirk

Staff:

Ellicia Seard-McCormick, Deputy  
County Executive  
Michael S. Liberman, Director  
Cable and Consumer Services  
Rebecca L. Makely, Acting Director  
Cable and Consumer Services  
Susan C. Jones, Branch Chief  
Consumer Affairs Branch  
Melissa Pickham, Consumer Specialist I  
Consumer Affairs Branch

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 PM by Chairperson Fee.

### **Quorum, Location, and Audibility of Member's Voices**

Vice Chairperson Gulakowski 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:

Conduct Roll Call:

Chairperson Fee, Burke  
Commissioner Belkowitz, Absent  
Commissioner Callender, Great Falls  
Commissioner Gulakowski, Burke  
Commissioner Hargraves, Kingstown  
Commissioner Kirk, Absent  
Commissioner Kratovil, Mount Vernon  
Commissioner Roark, Lorton  
Commissioner Rosier, Great Falls  
Commissioner Springer, Oakton  
Commissioner Svab, Fairfax

Vice Chairperson Gulakowski passed the virtual gavel to Chairperson Fee. A motion was made by Chairperson Fee that each member's voice was adequately heard by each member of the Consumer Protection Commission (Commission.) This motion was seconded by Commissioners Callender and Springer. This motion passed 9-0-0.

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

A motion was made by Vice Chairperson Gulakowski 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. Vice Chairperson Gulakowski further moved that the Commission conduct the meeting electronically through a dedicated audio-conferencing line, and that the public access the meeting by calling 571-459-5982 and entering access code 655 484 033#. The motion was seconded by Chairperson Fee. The motion passed 9-0-0.

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

A motion was made by Vice Chairperson Gulakowski 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 Hargraves. The motion was passed 9-0-0.

### **Minutes**

The minutes for the November 16, 2021, meeting were approved without objection.

### **Report of the Chairperson**

Chairperson Fee reminded the Commission that Michael S. Liberman, Director, Department of Cable and Consumer Services (DCCS) is officially retiring today. He thanked Director Liberman for his leadership and guidance to the Commission over the years.

### **Report of the Director**

Director Liberman introduced Deputy County Executive, Ellicia Seard-McCormick.

Director Liberman let the Commission know that Rebeca L. Makely, Director, Consumer Services Division, became temporary Acting Director for DCCS on Saturday, January 15, 2022.

### **Commission Matters**

Commissioner Callender had no matters to bring before the Commission.

Commissioner Gulakowski requested to test video connection prior to the next electronic meeting.

Commissioner Hargraves had no matters to bring before the Commission.

Commissioner Kratovil inquired on the status of edits to Chapter 28.1 massage ordinance and CPC involvement in the process. Director Makely stated the Board of Supervisors has a task force of County agencies reviewing the issues and will keep the Commission updated.

Commissioner Roark had no matters to bring before the Commission.

Commissioner Rosier spoke about the COVID-19 test kits. Director Makely stated Virginia Department of Health will be at the Government Center Parking Lot B for COVID testing appointments Saturday through Wednesday 9:00 to 5:30 p.m. for the next month. Commissioner Rosier stated that she emailed the FY 2021 CPC Annual Report to several groups.

Commissioner Springer had no matters to bring before the Commission.

Commissioner Svab had no matters to bring before the Commission.

Chairperson Fee had no matters to bring before the Commission.

### **Old Business**

There was no old business before the Commission.

### **New Business**

**1. Nomination of Officers.** Vice Chairperson Gulakowski, Nominating Committee Chairperson provided a Slate of Candidates:

Chairperson-John Fee  
Vice Chairperson-Denis Gulakowski  
Secretary-Jacqueline Rosier

Vice Chairperson Gulakowski asked if any other Commissioners would like to serve as an officer. No additional nominations were made.

Election of Officers will be held at the March 15, 2022, meeting.

### **2. 2022 Items of Interest.**

The following topics were suggested: Bitcoin/Cryptocurrency, Area Agency on Aging, Peddlers/Solicitors, Pawnbroker Scams, High School Presentation, Impact of Gambling on the Elder Community, Non-Carbon Vehicles and Incentives, Solar Panels, and Police Civilian Review Panel.

Chairperson Fee made the motion to adjourn. Commissioners Gulakowski and Callender seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 8:19 PM.