

Howard County Compensation Review Commission

Public Meeting

MINUTES (APPROVED)

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Webex teleconference. A recording of the teleconference is available on the Commission's website <https://cc.howardcountymd.gov/About-Us/Commissions-Task-Forces-and-Special-Reports/Compensation-Review-Commission-2021>

Commission Members in attendance:

Natasha H. Booms
Michael Butera
Ainy Haider-Shah
Eric Kelly
Kia Payne
Kathryn Valentine

Staff present:

Michael Martin, County Auditor's office
Amanda Mihill, Office of Law
Jeff Meyers, County Council staff

Call to Order at 6:30

- The Commission approved the minutes from October 14, 2021, and the agenda for tonight (motions by Ms. Valentine, seconds by Mr. Kelly, unanimous vote in favor in both cases).
- The County Executive was unable to attend. The Commission determined to send him written questions and to invite him to the November 10 meeting. The Commission understands the Executive's scheduling difficulties and that he might not be able to attend in person, but hopes that his written responses will be sufficient and reasonably prompt given the deadline for the Commission to complete its work. The Commission's questions:
 - What do you think the compensation should be for the County Executive and why do you think that?
 - How many positions have you added to support your office and do you need more staff?
- Each Commissioner in turn discussed whether Council Members' salaries should be increased and, if so, by how much in terms of dollars or percentage. Commissioners offered their opinions about a possible phase-in of any increase. Commissioners discussed Council staffing but there was not a consensus at this time about whether a recommendation should be made on that matter. Commissioners also discussed

whether the Council Member roles should be explicitly described as full time as all Commissioners recognize that the number of hours worked by Council Members was generally full time or more. By consensus, the Commission asks that each Commissioner forward his or her recommendations to Council staff for compiling. Council staff will send out that compilation as soon as possible, with a preliminary version by close of business on November 5.

- The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m. (motion to adjourn by Ms. Valentine, second by Mr. Kelly, unanimous vote in favor),