

# Howard County Compensation Review Commission

## MINUTES (APPROVED)

Date: Thursday, September 30, 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, chair person  
Karina Fisher  
Eric Kelly  
Kia Payne  
Kathryn Valentine

### Staff present:

Amanda Mihill, Office of Law  
Jeff Meyers, County Council staff  
Michael Martin, County audit staff

The agenda was approved unanimously. (approval moved by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Fisher)

The Minutes from September 14, 2021, were approved unanimously. (approval moved by Ms. Valentine, seconded by Ms. Fisher)

Staff answered the Commission's questions related to the status of the County Executive and to income in Howard County.

The Commission interviewed Liz Walsh, County Council chairperson. The Commission was scheduled to interview David Yungmann, Council Member, but he had to cancel. He will try to reschedule.

The Commission discussed the Council's workload, asking Council staff to describe the kinds of assistance Council Members receive from staff. Ms. Fisher was formerly a Council Member's special assistant and was able to share her insights on the Council workload and challenges. She noted that most legislation comes from the Administration, which is populated by full-time personnel, but it must be considered by the Council Members, who many consider to be part-timers. And Council Members rarely receive advanced notice of Administrative proposals.

Mr. Butera also indicated that his own research had confirmed that Howard County is the home to many high-income households with 31% of households having incomes over \$100,000 per year.

The motion to adjourn was passed unanimously at 7:17 p.m. (motion to adjourn by Ms. Payne, seconded by Ms. Fisher.