



OFFICE OF EQUITY AND CIVIL RIGHTS

Tuesday, May 26, 2026 at 12:00 PM via Zoom

Commission Attendees: Adolobia Buford, KeSean Johnson, Adler Archer, Major Scott Swenson

Staff and Guests: Chief Jill Muth (OECR)

The meeting was called to order and attendees were welcomed.

Staff Update and Director's Report

Staff provided updates from the Office of Equity and Civil Rights and reviewed the May 2026 Director's Report. The Commission was excited to welcome its newest member, Tabitha Drum, who was sworn in on Friday as the Commission's first female member.

On legislative matters, members were informed that City of Baltimore budget hearings would take place through June, during which agencies present their budgets and proposed adjustments to the Council and the public.

Staff shared a communications update, noting that the Veterans' Commission brochures had been completed, printed, and delivered. Members interested in distributing brochures in their communities were encouraged to contact Chief Muth. Members were also reminded to be mindful of meeting attendance and to notify Chief Muth or Chair Buford in advance of any absence so that it could be marked as excused.

The report also included outreach updates. Staff thanked all who attended and participated in the Memorial Day ceremony, noting that coverage would air on WBAL and recognizing the participation of Clarence "Tiger" Davis, Senate President Bill Ferguson, Councilman Zach Blanchard, Dana Petersen Moore on behalf of Mayor Scott, and Yolanda Rayford of Blue Star Families. The Commission expressed gratitude to Nigel Crocombe and the team at Federal Hill Park for their collaboration. Staff also previewed upcoming outreach events, including the Women's Veterans' Day celebration at the War Memorial Building on June 12 and the Minority Veterans' Association's "Our Stories, Our Truth" tour stop in Baltimore on June 20.

Approval of April Minutes

The Commission reviewed the April 2026 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved as presented.

Upcoming Events

Staff and Commissioners reviewed upcoming events, including Women's Veterans' Day on June 12 at the War Memorial Building and the recently held Memorial Day program. Commissioners also discussed plans for a suicide prevention program targeted for September, which the Commission will continue to work toward, as well as a financial readiness webinar for veterans and their families.

Parade Update

Work on the 2026 Veterans' Day Parade continues. Commissioners suggested adding a cadence calling competition between the participating units as an additional element to enliven the parade and attract public engagement. Major Swenson and KeSean Johnson volunteered to lead the development of this concept and to determine what it will look like.

New Business

There were no additional items raised under new business.

Open Discussion

Commissioners engaged in open discussion regarding upcoming initiatives and opportunities for community engagement.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 30, 2026 at 12:00 PM.