

# Prince George's County House Delegation

## MINUTES

### Feb 20 2015

Delegation Room  
House Office Building Room 150  
Annapolis, MD

#### **Delegates present:**

1. Delegate Jay Walker, Chairman
2. Delegate Angela Angel
3. Delegate Ben Barnes
4. Delegate Darryl Barnes
5. Delegate Ereik L. Barron
6. Delegate Will Campos
7. Delegate Dereck E. Davis
8. Delegate Barbara Frush
9. Delegate Tawanna P. Gaines
10. Delegate Anne Healey
11. Delegate Marvin E. Holmes Jr.
12. Delegate Carolyn J.B. Howard
13. Delegate Michael A. Jackson
14. Delegate Tony Knotts
15. Delegate Joseline Peña-Melnyk
16. Delegate Jimmy Tarlau
17. Delegate Kris Valderrama
18. Delegate Geraldine Valentino-Smith
19. Delegate Joseph Vallario
20. Delegate James Proctor
21. Delegate Michael L. Vaughn
22. Delegate Alonzo T. Washington

#### **Absent:**

- Delegate Diana Fennell (excused)

#### **Staff:**

Daniel Valentine, Legislative Director  
Jodie Chilson, Delegation Counsel

Meeting convened approximately 930 a.m. Prayer and Welcomes made.

## **I- Subcommittee Reports /Bills For Discussion:**

### **A. Bi-County Affairs: Delegate Michael L. Vaughn, Chair**

- **MC/PG 104-15 (HB 675)** – Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Reform Act of 2015 (FWA)

Delegation voted unanimously to adopt amendments to bill.

Delegate Pena-Melnyk asked if the delegation should consider a similar amendment regarding Commissioners from Prince George's County. Counsel explained that Prince George's already has the restriction in place for its members.

**MC/PG 105-15 (HB 652)** – Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission – Montgomery County – Commissioner Terms **(FAA)**

Delegation voted unanimously to adopt MCPG 105-15 with amendments from Montgomery County.

## **B. Law Enforcement – Delegate Washington**

**PG 301 (HB598)**

Delegation voted unanimously to adopt PG301-15 with amendments

## **C. County Affairs – Delegate Howard**

- **PG 405-15 (HB 983)** Prince George's Community College - Certified County-Based Business Participation Program **(UNF)**

**Withdrawn by council. Withdrawal affirmed by voice vote, no objections.**

- **PG 406-15 (HB 710)** Prince George's - School Property - Development of Policy for Noneducational Use **(UNF)**

**UNF affirmed by voice vote, no objections.**

- **PG 408-15 (HB 634)** Prince George's Board of Education - Certified County-Based Business Participation Program **(FWA)**

**Delegation voted unanimously for a Favorable with Amendment recommendation for PG 408.**

- **PG 409-15 (HB 593)** Prince George's - Public Schools - Criteria for Building Surveys and Inspections **(UNF)**

409 reported Unfavorable and affirmed by voice vote, no objections.

- **PG 412-15 (HB 706)** Prince George's - Alternatives to School Suspension Pilot Program – Establishment **(UNF)**

412 was returned to the subcommittee

## **IV. Late-Filed Bills:**

**PG 319-15 – Underage Individuals at Special Entertainment Events.**

Delegate Davis moved that PG 319 be reconsidered by the delegation as a late bill. While he was still troubled by late bills, Davis said he saw no reason to single out one piece of legislation.

Members voted to accept the bill as late in a unanimous voice vote without objection.

Members then voted on late consideration of three bills.

- **PG 319-15 (HB 1004)** - Prince George's County – Alcoholic Beverages – Underage Individuals at Special Entertainment Events **(Ramirez) (Reconsideration Motion Required)**
- **PG 425-15** – Prince George's County – Tax Sales – Limited Auction for County Employees – **(Angel)**
- **PG 322-15 (HB 970)** – Prince George's County – Transfer Tax – Deputy Sheriffs **(D. Barnes)**

"We have eight new members," Walker said. "But I think the message is clear: There has to be a really, really good reason to file late next year."

## IV. Discussion

Chairman Walker then invited a discussion on how the delegation handles requests to speak before the group. Several delegates had requested to add speakers without consulting the group, and there is a waitlist of requests.

Delegate Jackson requested inviting someone from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Delegate Washington said it would be a good idea to have a speaker on the Purple Line. Other suggestions were made.

"We could fill the calendar every week," Walker said. "There has to be a schedule."

Delegate Darryl Barnes noted that he had asked for the Democratic Central committee to speak about their strategic plan. Delegate Valentino-Smith said that the invitation to invite a partisan political group to speak raises questions about propriety in the General Assembly.

"There are restrictions on what can be discussed," she said.

Walker and Valentino-Smith advised that speaking requests should be sent through the delegation office, prompting an objection from Delegate Knotts.

"It's embarrassing when someone comes up and wants to speak, and I have to say 'Let me check.'" Knotts said.

"You can run for chair," Chair Walker replied.

Delegate Howard again said that requests should be made through the chair regarding the delegation.

Members continued to talk, a consensus was reached about scheduling speakers at the end of the agenda, and to hold off on requests for the near future.

“What I’m hearing is that we don’t want to sacrifice the business we have to take care of,” Walker said.

Delegate Pena-Melnyk asked that the delegation coordinate with the Anne Arundel and Southern MD delegations to ensure that they do not miss votes at the start of the delegation. Prince George’s has several members who have to attend both meetings on Fridays.

Chair Walker said staff will coordinate. Meeting concluded at approximately 9:45 a.m.

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