

The Maryland General Assembly

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HOUSE DELEGATION

DELEGATION MEETING MINUTES

Friday, January 15, 2016
10 a.m.

Prince George's Delegation Room
Lowe House Office Building, Room 150
Annapolis, MD 21401

Delegates present:

Delegate Jay Walker, Chair	Delegate Tawanna P. Gaines
Delegate Geraldine Valentino-Smith, Vice Chair	Delegate Anne Healey
Delegate Michael L. Vaughn, 2 nd Vice Chair	Delegate Marvin E. Holmes Jr.
Delegate Angela Angel	Delegate Carolyn J.B. Howard
Delegate Ben Barnes	Delegate Tony Knotts
Delegate Darryl Barnes	Delegate Joseline Peña-Melnyk
Delegate Erik L. Barron	Delegate Susie Proctor
Delegate Dereck E. Davis	Delegate Carlo Sanchez
Delegate Diana Fennell	Delegate Jimmy Tarlau
Delegate Barbara Frush	Delegate Kris Valderrama
	Delegate Alonzo T. Washington

Delegates absent:

Delegate Michael Jackson
Delegate Joseph Vallario

Staff:

Tia L. Holmes, Legislative Director
Jodie Chilson, Delegation Counsel/Law Enforcement Committee Counsel
Lynne Blume Rosen, County Affairs Committee Counsel
Crystal Lemieux, Bi-County Commissions Committee Counsel

The meeting convened at approximately 10:10 a.m.

I. Call to Order - Delegate Jay Walker, Chair

Chairman Walker welcomed the group and led prayer.

II. Introduction of Members

Chairman Walker introduced the new Delegates Sanchez and Proctor. He also recognized Delegate Tawanna P. Gaines, who was appointed Vice Chair of Appropriations.

Vice Chairwoman Valentino-Smith recognized the following elected officials who were in attendance: Prince George's County Councilmembers Dannielle M. Glaros and Mary A. Lehman, and Bowie City Councilmember Courtney D. Glass.

III. Subcommittee Reports:

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

Del. Vaughn announced that the Bi-County Committee will be meeting on Thursdays at 9 a.m. in the Prince George's Delegation Room. He said there are currently six bills assigned to his committee; however, there could be late bills assigned to his committee. He recognized Del. Angel as the Vice Chair of the Committee. He also announced the current Bi-County Committee roster: Dels. Barron, Gaines, Knotts, Sanchez, Valderrama, and Walker, and Crystal Lemieux as the Committee's counsel.

B. Law Enforcement: Delegate Alonzo T. Washington, Chair

Del. Washington said there are currently four bills assigned to his committee; however, there could be late bills assigned to his committee. He recognized Del. Jackson as the Vice Chair of the Committee and Jodie Chilson as the Committee's counsel.

C. County Affairs: Delegate Carolyn J. B. Howard, Chair

Del. Howard announced the members of the Committee: Dels. Fennell (Vice Chair), B. Barnes, D. Barnes, Healey, Proctor, and Tarlau. She also announced that the Committee will have its first meeting on Wednesday, January 27 at 8:30 a.m. There are currently 16 bills assigned to the County Affairs Committee. She recognized Lynne Blume Rosen as the Committee's counsel.

Delegation Counsel Jodie Chilson advised the Delegation on the process for submitting amendments.

IV. New Business:

A. Ad Hoc Education Committee: Delegate Geraldine Valentino-Smith, Chair

Del. Valentino-Smith announced the appointed members of the Education Committee: Dels. D. Barnes, Barron, Healey, Knotts, Jackson, Peña-Melnyk, and Tarlau. She described the committee and the issues the Committee will cover. There will be an organizational meeting for the Education Committee on Friday, January 22 after the Delegation meeting.

V. Announcements:

Chairman Walker recognized the Delegation's new Legislative Director, Tia Holmes. He also mentioned that the Delegation will need to vote on whether a late bill hearing will be held.

Del. Davis asked about deadlines for dropping bills in the hopper. Delegation Counsel advised him that the Delegation can drop bills at any time before the deadlines. Del. Healey suggested that the Delegation drop the bills in a timely manner. Healey further explained the rules for dropping bills and the public hearings.

Del. Washington asked about local House bills that have been requested by Senators. Delegation Counsel explained the process that allows Senators to request bills through the House Delegation.

Del. Howard explained that Senator Rosapepe, Chair of the Prince George's County Senate Delegation, plans to work closely with the House Delegation.

Del. Tarlau asked that the Delegation drops bills earlier this year in order to secure House Bill numbers sooner than later.

Chairman Walker announced that the Delegation will be joined by Prince George's County Public Schools CEO Dr. Kevin M. Maxwell and BOE Chairman Dr. Segun Eubanks as guest speakers at the next Delegation Meeting scheduled for January 22, 2016.

V. Adjourn

The meeting concluded at approximately 11 a.m.