The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Sandra Price, Board Chairperson.

Present:
Sandra Price - Board Chairperson
Richard Weisenhoff - Board Vice Chairperson
Patricia Branch - Board Member
Jerome Rollerson - Board Member
Young Smith - Board Member
Lila Boor - Investigator, Office of Consumer Protection

Absent:
Judi McCormick - Board Member
Rosa Maymi - Board Member
Cheryl Mattis – Deputy Director, Department of Community Resources and Services

The minutes from the November 9, 2021 meeting were approved.

Business Discussed:
Lila Boor gave updates from the Office of Consumer Protection:

- She discussed that the Consumer Protection Days at the Multi-Service Center were not very successful, only one person came in each of the two days. Beth Silverman gave a virtual presentation on Scams to a Celebration Church group;

- The Annual Report was discussed. Jerome Rollerson sent out the final version. Lila Boor said she will review it with Cheryl Mattis. The Board voted and approved the final version.

Ideas for National Consumer Protection Week 2022 coming up in early March 2022 were discussed:
- Sandra Price mentioned several areas of interest: Seniors, low-income residents, people of color, tenant’s rights, and government impersonators.
- Patricia Branch mentioned technical support scams, and how to be a smart consumer;
- Lila Boor suggested that the Board vote tonight on which area they want to focus on. The Board voted on “How to Be a Smart Consumer;”
- The Board plans to prepare information for posting on social media for each day of the week. Sandra Price wants to include the County Executive;
- Lila Boor suggested that they could take a photo with him with a caption highlighting the week. Lila Boor will discuss this with Cheryl Mattis so a request can be made to the Executive’s office. Sandra Price said that she could write up the caption;

The Board also discussed areas of focus for 2022, which included:

- Seniors, Communities of Color, Tenant’s Rights, and Government Impersonators. Sandra Price stated that the Board should think about how to spend the budget. Lila Boor will inquire if any of it has been spent.
- Patricia will continue to monitor the General Assembly for Consumer-related bills.
- Jerome Rollerson stated that he will continue to forward alerts to Lila Boor for sharing on social media from the Federal Trade Commission.

Announcements:

- Young Smith announced that AAPI will be hosting a Lunar New Celebration at the Columbia Mall on Saturday, February 5, 2022. The Office of Consumer Protection, and Office of Human Rights and Equity will participate. Lila Boor mentioned that this is an opportunity for the Board to participate by helping staff the Consumer Protection table. Young Smith stated that she hasn’t received the final word that the event will be live as of yet due to the COVID-19 variants. She will send out an e-mail as soon as she knows.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 11, 2022.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 PM by Sandra Price, Board Chairperson.