



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
Room 280A
455 North Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

January 17, 2019
9:00 a.m.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: January 17, 2019 / 9:00 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director of Public Works, Shana Epstein, led the Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Saleh read the Civility Statement.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Berman, Friedman, Popovich Levyn, Vice Chair Blumenfeld, Chair Saleh

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: James R. Latta, Rachel L. Evans, Linda Kyriazi

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Members of the public may address the Commission regarding any items not on the Agenda that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. By State law, the Commission may not discuss or vote on items not on the Agenda.

Speakers: None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

With the concurrence of the Commission, the Chair may choose to amend the order of the items on the agenda. By order of Chair Saleh, Items #5 and #6 were moved ahead to accommodate guest speakers.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 20, 2018.

MOTION by Popovich Levyn, SECONDED by Berman to approve the Meeting Minutes. (3/0)

AYES: Berman, Popovich Levyn, Blumenfeld

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: Saleh, Friedman

CARRIED

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

Beverly Hills Police Department

No representative was able to attend.

Beverly Hills Unified School District

School Board Members Isabel Hacker and Tristen Walker-Shuman spoke to the Commission.

- Newly elected Walker-Shuman was introduced as the Commission's current representative.
- Feed the Hungry event at Beverly Vista School in December was supported by students, their parents and other schools. Thousands of lunches were prepared.
- Hawthorne School partnered with the American Heart Association for Kids Heart Challenge.
- El Rodeo School is again participating in the Share Tables Food program.
- Beverly Hills Education Foundation is hosting a Run/Walk on January 27, 2019.
- The Schools will be participating during February 2019's Kindness week.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

2. Random Acts of Kindness Program

Every month Commissioners will have the opportunity to share a random act of kindness that he or she witnessed.

3. 2019 Kindness Week

The 2019 Kindness Week spans from Sunday, February 17 until Friday, February 22.

Human Services Specialist, Rachel Evans, reviewed the marketing materials with the Commission which included the Kindness banners, posters and their posting locations. A draft of the pledge scroll which will be used at the Farmers' Market booth was reviewed.

- The Kickoff event will be held at the Beverly Hills Public Library on Sunday, February 10, 2019: A screening of the Mr. Roger's documentary: *Won't You Be My Neighbor?* The screening announcement will be printed via postcards.
- February 5, 2019, the Commission is scheduled to present at City Council at the 7pm formal meeting.
- The Commission and staff reviewed the weekly schedule to see who would be representing the Commission at the events, in addition to delivering the kindness bracelets.
- Each PTA council president and each school principal will be delivered a banner.
- The Commission agreed to order an additional 1,000 bracelets in various sizes and deliver them to the five schools and use them for the Farmers' Market event. The Chair and Vice Chair will write-up instruction sheets that will be provided to the schools.

4. 2019 Workplan Exercise

Human Services Administrator James Latta, along with the Commission, reviewed the successful accomplishments in 2018 and the continuation of the City Council Priorities.

- The Proposed 2019 Commission Work Plan was reviewed and discussed.
- The three (3) new Commission suggestions were reviewed and discussed.

- The Commission requested Quarterly Reports of the Community Assistance Grant Fund (CAGF) recipients be provided in the future.
- The Commission agreed for staff to move forward on a Perpetual Plaque for the Embrace Civility Award winners that was in the shape of a shield and had space for 36 name plates.

MOTION by Friedman, SECONDED by Berman to include under the Tab for Community Assistance Grant Fund (CAGF) that we have speakers from the agencies receiving the grants, come and speak on a monthly basis in addition to a synopsis of their progress. (5/0)

AYES: Berman, Friedman, Popovich Levyn, Blumenfeld, Saleh
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
PASSED

MOTION by Friedman, SECONDED by Berman to approve the exploration, and if possible proceed with a documentary as proposed under Item #4 which is: work with IDA (Independent Documentary Association) and plan to determine which short film is coming out at the end of 2019 and arrange a day to show the short film and have the director or others present to discuss. Open it up to residents of Beverly Hills and the short subject should be selected on civility, bullying, kindness, etc. themes which we can bolster with other speakers or information based on the specific film theme. (5/0)

AYES: Berman, Friedman, Popovich Levyn, Blumenfeld, Saleh
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
PASSED

MOTION by Blumenfeld, SECONDED by Popovich Levyn to move that the Random Acts of Kindness that the Commission presents be limited to the City of Beverly Hills. (4/1)

AYES: Berman, Popovich Levyn, Blumenfeld, Saleh
NOES: Friedman
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
PASSED

NEW BUSINESS

5. Rotation of Commission Chair and Vice Chair

The Commission and staff thanked former Chair Berman for her work during 2018 and welcomed new Chair Annette Saleh and Vice Chair Ori Blumenfeld.

6. Water Rate Notices

Director of Public Works, Shana Epstein, updated the Commission on the water rate notices.

7. 2019 – 20 Community Assistance Grant Fund Process

Human Services Specialist, Rachel Evans provided an update:

- Applications are due February 1, 2019.
- Ads were placed in the local newspapers and a press release was submitted.
- Provided statistics on the quarterly reports of the prior funded organizations.
- Chair Saleh volunteered herself and requested Commission Berman join her on the ad hoc for the 2019 – 2020 Community Assistance Grant Fund process. Commissioner Berman accepted.

STATUS REPORTS

8. 2019 Beverly Hills Homeless Count

Human Services Specialist, Rachel Evans updated the Commission of the Homeless Count On the evening of Wednesday, January 23, 2019. It was reported that registration is now closed as capacity has been reached.

- The Beverly Hills Police, Ambassadors, CLASP Team, Human Services, employees from various City departments, and community members have confirmed attendance.

9. Beverly Hills Ambassador Program

Kris Zagya, Ambassador Program Operations Manager, provided an update to the Commission.

- Staff reviewed the provided statistics and noted the improvements.
- With the new smoking ordinance, the Ambassadors focused on outreach and hospitality in addition to maintaining the bistro tables provided on Rodeo Drive for the BOLD events.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

10. Administrator's Report

- Chair Saleh updated the Commission on meeting with Management Partners and the Community Services staff on the role of the Commission, in addition to the Community Services Strategic Workshop. Commissioner Berman provided additional comments.
- January 8, 2019: An Ordinance establishing a Sidewalk Vendor Program.
- January 8, 2019: City Council passed Human Services relocating to the Beverly Hills Public Library.
- January 15 2019: City Council approved additional hiring of City Rangers.
- February 5, 2019: Kindness Week on the City Council Agenda in addition to the Community Development Block Grant Public Hearing for FY 2019-2020.
- Measure H Year-One Report card.
- Commissioner Berman was contacted by the Beverly Hills Weekly requesting her New Year Resolutions. One of her resolutions was to continue promoting and practicing civility in all aspects of both the community and in her life.
- Calendar for 2019 Regular Meetings.
- Reviewed.

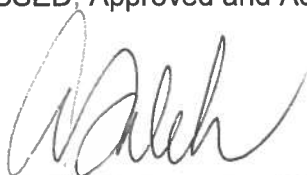
11. Overview of Current and Pending Agenda Items

- Revision of the Rent Stabilization Handbook is pending.
- The latest Hate Crime Report will be scheduled for an upcoming meeting.
- An update on the Sidewalk Vendor Permits will be scheduled for a future meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

January 17, 2019 at 11:56 a.m.

PASSED, Approved and Adopted on this 21st day of February 2019.



Annette Saleh, Chair