



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

**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

December 20, 2018
9:00 a.m.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: December 20, 2018 / 9:00 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Police Sergeant Sean Smollen led the Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Berman read the Civility Statement.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Popovich Levyn, Blumenfeld, Chair Berman

Commissioners Absent: Friedman, Vice Chair Saleh

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 Berman, the agenda remained as submitted.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 15, 2018.

MOTION by Popovich Levyn, SECONDED by Blumenfeld to approve the Meeting Minutes with noted corrections. (3/0)

AYES: Popovich Levyn, Blumenfeld, Chair Berman

NOES: None

ABSENT: Friedman, Vice Chair Saleh

ABSTAIN: None

CARRIED

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

Beverly Hills Police Department

Sergeant Sean Smollen updated the Commission on the following:

- The Golden Globe Awards is scheduled for January 6, 2019.
- Encouraged residents to schedule a Neighborhood Watch meeting and for anyone considering to host a meeting to contact him via email or by calling 310-288-2668 to help orchestrate.
- Another Coffee with the Cops will be scheduled for the end of January 2019; location to be determined. Encouraged residents to come out and meet and greet the officers.
- Encouraged residents to use the new Vacation Watch Program when going out of town for a specific amount of time. Call the non-emergency number, 310-550-4951 to schedule. This request can now be filled out and submitted online at: <http://www.beverlyhills.org/vacationwatch>.
- The Geographical Police Strategy was rolled out a few months ago. The City is split down the middle with Lieutenants assigned to each region and the beat officers are assigned to specific shifts for better patrolling.

Beverly Hills Unified School District

School Board Member Isabel Hacker provided an update on

- The successful blood drive at Beverly Hills High School.
- Feed The Hungry is an annual event that will be held at Beverly Vista School on December 24, 2018. Sandwiches will be made and donated to the Westside Food Bank.
- Kindness Week 2019: Has passed on the information to staff and will be coordinating events with the Commission.
- With the installation of new School Board Members, Tristen Walker-Shuman will be the new representative to the Commission.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

2. Tenant Landlord Forum

- Human Services Administrator James Latta, provided an update and all agreed that this Tab can be removed from being on-going packet item. The Commission is still the contact for any Tenant or Landlord issue requiring an open forum.
- Chair Berman pointed out that in today's Beverly Hills Weekly, dated December 20 – December 26, 2018, Issue #1003, that there was a great deal of information in the article titled, "Council Presses Pause on Rent Stabilization Ordinance; Updated Version to Return in New Year." More issues are being researched and the Ordinance will return in 2019 for a final vote.

3. Random Acts of Kindness Program

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

- Commissioner Popovich Levyn spoke of a community resident, Yiffat and Michael Rublevich who collected donations for the fire victims in Paradise, California. A thank you to the Rublevich family for their Random Act of Kindness.

- A thank you to Vice Chair Saleh for passing the word around the community via social media and e-mail blasts, getting the community involved for this donation.

4. 2019 Kindness Week

Human Services Specialist, Rachel Evans, provided an update:

- The Beverly Hills Public Library staff, along with the Human Services staff, will be providing marketing materials for their screening of: *Won't You Be My Neighbor* which the Community will be invited to attend.
- The first day of Kindness Week will be Sunday, February 17, 2019; plans included having a booth at the Farmers' Market that Sunday with the activity of signing multiple scrolls. Additional activities and staffing were reviewed and discussed for both the booth at the Farmers' Market and for the rest of Kindness week.
- The Commission agreed on purchasing bracelets with the wording "Celebrate Kindness" in a royal blue color in both adult and children's sizes.
- The Commission agreed to have Kindness Week presented at City Council on February 5, 2019.
- The Commission to discuss with their new School Board representative if they want to present to the PTA Council or Board Meetings.

5. 2019 Workplan Exercise

Human Services Administrator James Latta, reviewed the 2019 Workplan, which will be reviewed again at the January 2019 meeting, and reminded the Commission if they have a new idea or project for the Commission to submit it to staff by January 7, 2019.

This Workplan Priority List discussion is to make sure the Commission is in line with both the Commission's priorities and City Council's.

NEW BUSINESS

6. 2019-20 Community Assistance Grant Fund Process

Human Services Specialist, Rachel Evans, informed the Commission that the Human Services Division is underway in their 2019-2020 Community Assistance Grant Funding (CAGF). The RFP was released on December 3, 2018 to all prior recipients in addition to ads being placed in the City's newspapers, the Community Services brochure and available on the City's website. Additionally, a press release will be sent out.

- Commissioner Levyn requested follow-up on the grants to see if they used the money, how it was used and if the project was successful. A summary outcome.
- Review the role of the Human Relations Commission in the CAGF since they do share the project with another Commission.
- A timeline was requested for planning purposes.

STATUS REPORTS

7. 2019 Beverly Hills Homeless Count

Human Services Specialist, Rachel Evans reminded the Commission of the Homeless Count during the evening of Wednesday, January 23, 2019 and staff is seeking community volunteers. To register, one can call Rachel Evans at 310-285-1024 or go online at www.theycountwillyou.org

- A new Winter Shelter guide was included. The Winter Shelters opened on December 1, 2018 and will stay open until March 31, 2019.
- Two new shuttles stops for the West Los Angeles Winter Shelter were added.
- Staff explained the shelter bed process.

8. Beverly Hills Ambassador Program

Human Services Administrator James Latta provided an update:

- The Ambassador presence at the schools had been increased with the understanding that the school security would be able to handle all of the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA). After a meeting with the School Board and City Council members, it was agreed to continue to have the Ambassadors at the schools through the end of the school year, June 30, 2019.
- The yearly training of the Ambassadors was held on December 6, 2018, included both CPR and Stop the Bleed training.
- The presence of the motorized scooters have slowed down.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

9. Administrator's Report

- Chair Berman updated the Commission on the last Mayor's Cabinet Meeting.
- January 8, 2019 Community Development Block Grant Public Hearing for FY 2019-2020.
- Chair and Vice Chair Training on January 7, 2019, 6pm – 8pm.
- Rotation of Chair and Vice Chair at January 17, 2019 meeting.
- Calendar for 2019 Regular Meetings.
Reviewed.

10. Overview of Current and Pending Agenda Items

Reviewed

ADJOURNMENT

December 20, 2018 at 10:38 a.m.

PASSED, Approved and Adopted on this 17th day of January 2019.

 1.17.19

Annette Saleh, Chair