



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

**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

May 18, 2017  
9:00 a.m.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Date/Time: May 18, 2017 / 9:00 a.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sergeant Sean Smollen.

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Saleh, Blumenfeld, Vice Chair Berman, Chair Friedman  
Commissioners Absent: Popovich Levyn  
Staff Present: James R. Latta, Rachel L Evans, Nancy Hunt-Coffey, 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.

Public Works Project Manager Samer Elayyan provided the Commission with an update on the schedule of the North Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction Project.

Director of Public Works, Shana Epstein, who recently rejoined the City of Beverly Hills, re-introduced herself to the Commission.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chair Friedman approved the agenda as presented.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Consideration of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 20, 2017.

MOTION by Blumenfeld, SECONDED by Berman to approve the Meeting Minutes with noted correction. (4/0)

AYES: Saleh, Blumenfeld, Berman, Friedman

NOES: None

ABSENT: Popovich Levyn

ABSTAIN: None

PASSED

## **REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES**

### **Beverly Hills Unified School District**

No representative was able to attend.

### **Beverly Hills Police Department**

Sergeant Sean Smollen provided an update.

- National Police Week for 2017 started Monday, May 15 to Sunday May 21. Sergeant Smollen just returned from Washington D.C., where he joined others in the Police Unity Ride Fundraiser to raise money for the Police Memorial in D.C. in addition to assist families.
- May 24, 2017 is the Los Angeles County Police Officers Memorial.

## **CONTINUED BUSINESS**

### **2. Tenant Landlord Forum**

Although Human Services had received several online submissions and calls from concerned residents, there were not any speakers at the Forum.

### **3. Community Assistance Grant Fund FY 2017-18**

Human Services Administrator James R. Latta reported to the Commission that City Council accepted all the recommendations provided by the Human Relations Commission.

City Council requested that staff work with the organizations that did not get funded to provide information and advice on why their request wasn't approved.

Congratulatory letters will be mailed to the accepted programs that will include addressing the next steps in the process. Additionally, letters will be mailed to those not accepted advising them on applying for next year's grant.

Staff was also given direction to find community providers for housing rights legal services. Three proposals were submitted, but first need to be vetted by the Charitable Solicitations and Human Relations Commissions. Additional application questions were requested by City Council.

The Human Relations Commission agreed that all individuals seeking information about the new Rent Control Ordinance receive counseling under this proposal. This includes information about relocation fees, rental increases, just-cause eviction and any concern related to the new Ordinance.

Possible considerations for eligibility include being a senior, low-income resident, and whether the issue is defensible or not. These notes are to be added to the additions from City Council, City staff and the Charitable Solicitation and then sent to the HRC for review.

#### 4. Human Relations Work Plan Review

Human Services Administrator James R. Latta reviewed the Commission's work plan:

- Anti-Bullying Video Contest is the number one priority
- Rent Stabilization
- Community Assistant Grant Fund
- Random Acts of Kindness
- Embrace Civility Award – scheduled for September
- October is Civility Month

The Chair requested a timeline for September's Civility Award that will include the updated application and planned publicity.

The Bullying Prevention Video Contest: The Commission needs to review the following:

- Eligibility
- Prizes
- Prompts

Vice Chair Berman shared with the Commission some of the prompts she worked on in addition to a graphic piece Commissioner Saleh designed.

MOTION by Friedman, SECONDED by Berman: move that we adopt the Anti-Bullying video with the prompts and title pages as proposed by Vice Chair Berman that shows the contest eligibility rules as discussed. The prizes are \$250, \$150, \$100 for the categories. (4/0)

AYES: Saleh, Blumenfeld, Berman, Friedman

NOES: None

ABSENT: Popovich Levyn

ABSTAIN: None

PASSED

MOTION by Berman, SECONDED by Saleh: move that we publicize the Video Competition beginning August 7, 2017 in whatever medium that will be, the deadline for submission is September 15, 2017 and the presentation at City Council will be October 17, 2017. (4/0)

AYES: Saleh, Blumenfeld, Berman, Friedman

NOES: None

ABSENT: Popovich Levyn

ABSTAIN: None

PASSED

Random Acts of Kindness  
Tabled

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None

## **STATUS REPORTS**

### 5. Beverly Hills Ambassador Program

Human Services Administrator James R. Latta provided an update on the current areas of concern for the Ambassadors:

- Civic Center Area
- Passing of the Non-Smoking Ordinance

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION**

### 6. Mayor's Cabinet Meeting

- The Mayor's Cabinet Meetings are now broadcasted live and meeting minutes will no longer be provided.
- Chair Friedman stated that traffic on Santa Monica Boulevard was the major item that was discussed.

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF**

### 7. Administrator's Report

Human Services Administrator James R. Latta updated the Commission on the following items:

- April 20, 2017 City Council approved \$250,000 from the General Fund to support the implementation to the interim Rent Stabilization Ordinance.
- April 26, 2017 Homeless Initiative Measure H Revenue Planning Process.
- Transition of Rent Stabilization to Community Development.
- City Staff presents FY 2017-18 budget proposals to City Council.
- Staff will be working on CAGF agreements for presentation to City Council.
- May 25, 2017 Burton Green College Scholarship for Beverly Hills High School Students.

### 8. Overview of Current and Pending Agenda Items

- The Commission was interested in hearing from the Community Development Division regarding next steps in Rent Stabilization Implementation.


### 9. Calendar for 2017 Regular Meetings

- Chair Friedman will not be able to attend the December meeting

## **ADJOURNMENT**

May 18, 2017 at 12:06 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 15 DAY of June, 2017



Jerald Friedman, Chair