



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

**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

September 28, 2017
9:00 a.m.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: September 28, 2017 / 9:02 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by BHUSD Vice President Lisa Korbatov.

ROLL CALL

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

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.

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Friedman approved the agenda as presented.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 17, 2017.

MOTION by Saleh, SECONDED by Popovich Levyn to approve the Meeting Minutes with noted corrections. (5/0)

AYES: Saleh, Popovich Levyn, Blumenfeld, Berman, Friedman

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

PASSED

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

Beverly Hills Unified School District

BHUSD Vice President Lisa Korbatov provided an update.

- The schools had successful openings.
- The Ambassador program has done good work.
- The schools are reviewing bullying prevention programs and will work with the Commission on future projects.

Beverly Hills Police Department
No representative was able to attend.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

2. Tenant Landlord Forum

Human Services Administrator James R. Latta updated the Commission:

- One complaint was submitted to Human Services and was resolved by Code Enforcement.
- Calls still come into Human Services and are either answered or routed to Community Development for additional details.

3. Rent Stabilization Update

Director of Community Development Susan Healy Keene updated the Commission on the status of the Rent Stabilization Program. On June 13, 2017, City Council approved the contents and format of the online rental registry form. At that time, the 30-day registration period was scheduled to begin on July 24, 2017 and end on August 23, 2017. At the same meeting, Council approved Pepperdine law professor Sukhsimranjit Singh of the Strauss Institute for Dispute Resolution to lead facilitated dialogue sessions with housing providers and tenants. The purpose of the sessions was to improve the communication between landlords and tenants, identify areas of consensus, and to provide recommendations on potential amendments for the implementation of the Rent Stabilization Program.

On August 8, 2017, Community Development provided a progress update to City Council on the Rent Stabilization Program. The report included a proposed staffing plan, program costs, and an implementation action plan for the Rent Stabilization Program. Council decided at this meeting to allow Dr. Singh to complete his work with the community before they vote on the full Rent Stabilization Ordinance. The decision to wait for Dr. Singh's report resulted in Council extending the registration period from August 23, 2017 to September 23, 2017.

The Commission asked that moving forward, that they are made aware of any updates made to the Tenant Landlord Rights and Responsibilities Handbook. The Commission also requested that each revision of the Handbook include the date of revision.

Beverly Hills resident David Finkelstein spoke to the Commission on this subject.

4. Embrace Civility Award

The Commission reviewed and discussed the submitted nominations.

MOTION by Berman, SECONDED by Saleh move that #4 nomination be awarded the 2017 Civility Award and nomination #2 be the second. (5/0)

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

The congratulatory letters were reviewed and recommended changes will be made.

5. Bulling Prevention Video Contest

The Commission discussed if the deadline date should be extended for the Bullying Prevention Video Contest.

MOTION by Berman, SECONDED by Blumenfeld move that we close the Bullying Prevention Video Contest as was advertised and we present our award in October as originally planned. (5/0)

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

Staff will email the submitted videos to the Commissioners and the cash prize will be discussed.

Commissioners Berman and Saleh volunteered to be the ad hoc to the School District if the Video Contest is relaunched.

6. Random Acts of Kindness

Commissioners Saleh and Popovich Levyn presented some ideas they had researched to the Commission.

It was agreed to keep Random Acts of Kindness agenized.

NEW BUSINESS

7. 2017 Conflict of Interest Code

2017 Conflict of Interest Code, Exhibits A & B

MOTION by Berman, SECONDED by Blumenfeld to adopt the 2017 Conflict of Interest Code, Exhibits A & B for the City of Beverly Hills Human Relations Commission as presented:

Ayes: Saleh, Popovich Levyn, Blumenfeld, Berman, Friedman
Noes: None
Absent: None
Carried

STATUS REPORTS

8. Beverly Hills Ambassador Program

During the month of August, the Ambassador Team was busy with tourism and many unknown transients moving through the community. Another challenge proved to be the extra deployment of resources for the City's BOLD program, which was extended through January 15, 2018. The BOLD program led to increasing the Ambassador staff from 21 hours a day to 24 hours a day.

Public Works asked the Ambassador team for a quote on the cost of an additional Ambassador for Rodeo Drive from 1:00 pm to 9:00 pm nightly.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

9. Administrator's Report

Calendar for 2017 – 2018 Regular Meetings

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

- September 5, 2017, Professor Singh presented findings before City Council who will consider funding of the rent stabilization program.
- Beverly Hills Open Later Days (BOLD) events finished August 31, 2017.
- Rodeo Drive Bistro, component of BOLD, extended through January 15, 2018.
- September 10, 2017, Barks and Breakfast - a Celebration of Beverly Hills Dog Park's First Anniversary.
- September 11, 2017 - Senior Health Fair at Roxbury Community Senior Center.
- September 18, 2017 - Beverly Hills Ambassador Team Recognition and Training.
- September 23, 2017 - Next Night: A Night Block Party on South Beverly Drive.
- September 27, 2017 – Evening with the Mayor
- October 3, 2017 - City Council Meeting 7:00 pm, the Human Relations Commissioners will introduce October as Civility month.
- Hepatitis A update – 12 cases in Los Angeles confirmed.
- The 2017 - 2018 Commission meeting calendar was reviewed.

10 .Overview of Current and Pending Agenda Items Reviewed.

ADJOURNMENT

September 28, 2017 at 11:51 a.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 19 DAY of October, 2017



Jerald Friedman, Chair