



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

**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

February 21, 2019
9:00 a.m.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: February 21, 2019 / 9:01 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Beverly Hills Board of Education member, Tristen Walker-Shuman, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Saleh read the Civility Statement.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Friedman, Popovich Levyn, Vice Chair Blumenfeld, Chair Saleh
Commissioners Absent: Berman
Staff Present: James R. Latta, 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, Item #5 be moved ahead to accommodate guest speakers.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 17, 2019.

MOTION by Popovich Levyn, SECONDED by Friedman to approve the Meeting Minutes. (4/0)

AYES: Friedman, Popovich Levyn, Vice Chair Blumenfeld, Chair Saleh

NOES: None

ABSENT: Berman

ABSTAIN: None

CARRIED

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

Beverly Hills Unified School District

Beverly Hills Board of Education member, Tristen Walker-Shuman, provided an update on what both the schools and district are doing for Kindness Week:

- The Kindness Bracelets were distributed and both the students and teachers are wearing them.
- El Rodeo School, along with Beverly Vista School, scheduled a Kind Movie Night on February 19, 2019, and showed the film "Wonder." Based on the New York Times bestseller, this movie tells the inspiring and heartwarming story of August Pullman, a boy with facial differences who enters the fifth grade, attending a mainstream elementary school for the first time.
- El Rodeo School also had a sock and book drive to gather kindness related socks and books for those in need.
- Hawthorne School had Kindness-grams for February 14, 2019. A Pajamarama is scheduled and the books chosen will be about Kindness.
- Beverly Vista School scheduled a Blood Drive.
- The High School students were encouraged to share messages of Kindness on a wall.

Beverly Hills Police Department

Human Services Administrator James Latta introduced the City's new Nurse Practitioner Program. Through an innovative Emergency Medical Service (EMS) model, the program is designed to deliver advanced, efficient and effective healthcare in the pre-hospital setting.

Beverly Hills Fire Department's (BHFD) vehicle, 'Nurse Practitioner 1' (NP1), will respond to calls for service in the field. Staffed with both a Nurse Practitioner and Firefighter Paramedic with oversight from a board certified Emergency Medicine physician, NP1 is equipped with an array of medications, select laboratory diagnostics and technical medical equipment.

Nurse Practitioner Theresa Simmons and Firefighter Paramedic Scott Marques were introduced and updated the Commission on the new program. This process will hopefully keep the unnecessary non-emergency issues out of the emergency department and create wellness within the Community. The team has already been collaborating with both the Jewish Family Service Organization and the City's Human Services Division to reduce unnecessary 911 calls.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

2. Random Acts of Kindness Program

Every month Commissioners will have the opportunity to share random acts of kindness that occur within the City of Beverly Hills:

- Vice Chair Blumenfeld read a story that was submitted by Commissioner Berman.
- Commissioner Popovich Levyn thanked the Commission staff for their help at Sunday's Farmers' Market Kindness booth, the Principal at El Rodeo, Kevin Allen, who received the Kindness bracelets for the School, Ms. Sue, a resident who recycled at the Farmers' Market, and everyone who signed the Kindness Pledge scroll.
- Commissioner Friedman appreciated Commissioner Berman staying home while under the weather and being kind to us all.

- Chair Saleh gave a shout-out to resident Julie Dobkin Gilbert for her Act of Kindness in donating platelets and blood at Cedars Sinai Medical Center a number of times during the year.
- Chair Saleh also gave a shout-to to our local City newspaper editor, Victoria Talbot, of the Beverly Hills Courier, who volunteered to join Recreation and Parks Commissioner and pilot, Julian Javor on a flight that rescued thirteen (13) animals. Chair Saleh additionally thanked staff for helping out during Kindness Week.

3. Human Relations Commission FY 2019-20 Work Plan

Human Services Administrator James Latta reviewed with the Commission last month's work plan prioritization exercise that the Commission developed to complete this year and work towards for Fiscal Year 2019-20: Acts of Kindness Program, Civility Program, Community Assistance Grant Fund (CAGF) and the Ambassador Team/Program.

- A sample of the requested perpetual Embrace Civility Plaque will be reviewed at next month's meeting.
- Staff to check with Roxbury Community Center to see if they would allow a film screening of a documentary that Commissioner Friedman would organize with the Independent Directions Association (IDA).
- Commissioner Popovich Levyn requested reviewing the Embrace Civility Award application to help with submissions in addition to reviewing the publicity plan.

NEW BUSINESS

4. FY 2019-20 Community Assistance Grant Fund Process

Human Services Administrator James Latta updated the Commission on the twenty-four (24) applications received this year, six (6) of which are new. This year the ask is 1.6 million. Staff is working on scheduling ad hoc meetings with the Charitable Solicitations Commission and the Human Relations Commission.

STATUS REPORTS

5. FY18-19 CAGF: Jewish Family Service Update

Lisa Shainberg, LCSW and Kaitlyn Loughran, LCSW, who are the social workers that provide service to residents through the CAGF, provided information about Jewish Family Service and discussed services they provide to Beverly Hills Seniors who meet program criteria.

The goal of the Beverly Hills Care Management Program is to maintain frail and socially isolated seniors in the Community at the optimum level of functioning, well-being, and independence, helping them to avoid premature institutionalization.

6. 2019 Beverly Hills Homeless Count Update

Human Services Administrator James Latta updated the Commission on the 2019 Beverly Hills Homeless Count where Human Services staff, Police, Ambassadors, Rangers and

residents all volunteered to assist with the successful event. The total this year was sixteen (16) which appears to be the City's base.

7. 2019 Kindness Week

Chair Saleh thanked the Commissioners and Staff for all their work in making the Program a success. The week continues with the second screening of the Mr. Rogers Documentary, "Won't You Be My Neighbor," at Roxbury Community Center in addition to the Friday's Reading Kindness Books to Preschoolers which both Vice Chair Blumenfeld and Commissioner Popovich Levyn are participating in.

8. Beverly Hills Ambassador Program

Human Services Administrator James Latta and Kris Zagyva, Ambassador Program Operations Manager, reviewed the current statistics with the Commission.

- Mr. Zagyva has been discussing changing from the Ambassador's current green uniform and sample uniforms were displayed that were more formal and 2-toned. The Commission requested reviewing again at next month's meeting with a side-by-side comparison of the current uniform along with updated ones.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

9. Mayor's Cabinet Meeting

- January 28, 2019 Highlights Reviewed.
- Commissioner Friedman wanted to congratulate and wish his children's former school, Oakwood, good luck at the Academy Awards for their English teacher and former classmates film being nominated for Documentary Short: "Period. End of Sentence."
- Commissioner Popovich Levyn encouraged residents to be kind to each other.
- Chair Saleh encouraged Commissioner Berman to feel better soon.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

10. Administrator's Report

- February 5, 2019 City Council Meeting:
 - o Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Hearing for FY 2019-2020. Funding was approved by City Council.
 - o Agreement with Michael Baker International Inc. was approved to fund the FY 2018-19 CDBG program.
 - o City Council approved to convert Ranger Part Time resources to Regular Part Time Ranger positions.
 - o Study session discussion regarding the ban of tobacco sales in the City of Beverly Hills.
- February 8, 2019:
 - o Updated summary of Beverly Hills Homeless Services for City and Westside Cities Council of Governments Homeless Committee websites
- February 12, 2019:
 - o Tour Bus Ad Hoc Committee Meeting
- Calendar for 2019 Regular Meetings
 - o Reviewed

11. Overview of Current and Pending Agenda Items
- The 2017 Hate Crime Report will be presented next month.
 - Affordable Living for the Aging (ALA), a Community Assistance Grant Fund recipient will be presenting next month.

ADJOURNMENT

February 21, 2019 at 10:27 a.m.

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



Annette Saleh, Chair