



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
Room 280A
455 North Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210
Telephonic / Video Conference Meeting

**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

March 18, 2021
9:00 a.m.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: March 18, 2021 / 9:01 a.m.

Vice Chair Popovich read the Civility Statement.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Freeman, Sharp, Saleh, Vice Chair Popovich Levyn
Commissioners Absent: Chair Blumenfeld
Staff Present: James R. Latta, Rachel L. Evans, Enisha Clark, Linda Kyriazi

Chair Blumenfeld arrived at 10:01 a.m.

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

With the concurrence of the Commission, the Chair may choose to amend the order of the items on the agenda. Vice Chair Popovich Levyn approved the agenda as presented.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 18, 2021

MOTION by Saleh, SECONDED by Sharp to approve the Meeting Minutes. (4/0)

AYES: Freeman, Sharp, Saleh, Vice Chair Popovich Levyn
NOES: None
ABSENT: Chair Blumenfeld
ABSTAIN: None
CARRIED

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

Beverly Hills Unified School District

Beverly Hills Board of Education member, Dr. Amanda Stern, provided an update on the following:

- The is the first week that the youngest learners have been able to return to school with half the time in the classroom and half virtually.
- Counseling and support is available for all students via NormanAid virtual counseling.
- The High School will hold their dance tryouts for next year virtually.
- The middle school is having their yearly American Heart Association challenge.
- Beverly Vista Middle School Principal Kevin Allen announced that he will be retiring at the end of the 2020-21 school year.

Beverly Hills Police Department

Police Lieutenant Max Subin, updated the Commission on the following:

- The armed robbery on North Canon Drive; the investigation is moving in a positive direction and patrolling has been increased.
- A police officer committee has been created for recruitment due to the future completion of the Metro.

PRESENTATIONS

2. Trust & Innovations Portal, City Auditor's Office
Eduardo Luna, City Auditor, presented to the Commission the Trust & Innovations Portal (TIP) to assist the Commission in their work plan discussion.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

3. Human Relations Commission 2021-2022 Work Plan Results
James R. Latta, Human Services Administrator, reviewed with the Commission the work plan proposals that were discussed at last month's meeting. The presentation of the City Auditor's TIP Program was provided to assist the Commission in the staff/resident relations work plan proposal.
 - A committee consisting of Vice Chair Levyn and Commissioner Freeman was created to flush out clarification and details of the Staff/Resident Relations proposal.
 - This item will be placed on next month's agenda.
4. Beverly Hills Homeless Initiative
Enisha Clark, Human Services Specialist, reviewed with the Commission their approved recommendations. The two components of Homelessness Initiative are Community Education and Advocacy/Innovation. The commission has made progress on the advocacy/ innovation component by agreeing to:
 1. Advocate for a Department of Mental Health contracted social worker who can assist local law enforcement with administering expeditious 5150 holds and on-going case management services;
 2. Advocate for expanded outreach services by offering additional outreach hours during the early mornings, late nights, and weekend hours;
 3. Continue to support our community partners who provide invaluable services to the homeless (i.e. Saban Health Clinic, Step Up on Second, PATH, All Saints, Bet Tzedek, etc.);
 4. Plan to recommend that the City Council take an innovative approach to homeless services and advocate for legislative policy reform on homelessness as part of the City's Legislative Platform.

- To promote community education, the Commission requested to have a Homeless link on the Commission's home page on the City's website and creation of a single page mailer explaining resources to residents. Additional recommendations by staff included virtual community forums with local officials to identify regional homelessness solutions.
- After a discussion and suggestions by Commissioner Freeman, Chair Blumenfeld suggested Commissioner Freeman meet with staff to flush out those ideas and present them to the Commission at a later meeting.

MOTION by Popovich Levyn, SECONDED by Sharp move that we have an exploration from our Human Relations Commission staff regarding this issue of exploring the onsite facility for the homeless. (2/3)

AYES: Sharp, Vice Chair Popovich Levyn
NOES: Freeman, Saleh, Chair Blumenfeld
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
FAILED:

5. Community Assistant Grant Fund (CAGF) Timeline
Rachel Evans, Clinical Program Coordinator, updated the Commission on the 2021 – 2022 Community Assistant Grant Fund status and timeline.
 - The Commission received 31 applications
 - Staff scheduled a meeting with the Commission's ad hoc Committee, Commissioners Saleh and Sharp, to review the submissions.
 - Following that meeting, the Charitable Solicitations Commission (CSC) ad hoc will jointly meet with the Human Relations Commission ad hoc to provide an agreed joint report.
6. 2021 Kindness Week Review
Rachel Evans, Clinical Program Coordinator, along with Enisha Clark, Human Services Specialist, reviewed with the Commission the highlights of the successful February 14-19, 2021 Kindness Week campaign.
 - Staff thanked the Commission and community partners for their ideas and participation that helped make Kindness Week successful.

NEW BUSINESS

STATUS REPORTS

7. Beverly Hills Ambassador Program
Johnthon Hunter, Operations Manager, reviewed the current statistics with the Commission.
 - Outside dining in the City of Beverly Hills has caused an increase in activity in the triangle area such as trespassing and panhandling.
 - These individuals have not been interested in receiving services.
 - Ambassadors continue making contact and establishing relationships with the businesses.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

8. Chair Report
 - a) Mayor's Cabinet Meeting
 - Meeting Minutes
 - b) Review Commission Meeting dates
 - It was agreed to reschedule the September 16, 2021 meeting due to a holiday.
 - c) Good and Welfare
 - Commissioner Saleh spoke about condemning the recent anti-Asian violence.
 - The Commission agreed to place this item on next month's agenda.
 - Commissioner Sharp informed the Commission of a market on Pico Boulevard that is closing which has a large kosher section, serving residents. Petitions are being circulated to support the market.
 - Vice Chair Popovich Levyn thanked Alvin Collins from the City's IT department for his support and patience. A Kindness pin has been presented to Alvin.
 - Commissioner Sharp additionally thanked Alvin for his kindness and support.
 - Commissioner Saleh thanked recording secretary Linda for her assistance.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

9. Administrator's Report
 - Vaccination update
 - Orientation with new commissioners March 8, 2021
 - HRC Commissioner interviews
 - EOC activated Golden Globes on February 28, 2021
 - Resident Contacts for Homeless Assistance
 - a. Beverly Hills Outreach Team (BHOT) makes up the City's in-house homeless outreach team. They provide a citywide response and are in the field from 8am – 5pm, Monday – Friday. They can be reached at **310-487-0313**
 - b. The Beverly Hills Ambassador Program can be contacted 24/7 at **424-302-1487** and are deployed in the business triangle and South Beverly Drive. They work closely with the BHOT team to offer assistance.
 - c. For assistance in City Parks, talk to the on duty Ranger or contact a Ranger supervisor at **310-285-6835**
10. Overview of Current and Pending Agenda Items
 - It was agreed that two new agenda items be added to next month's agenda; hate crimes and residential relations.

ADJOURNMENT

March 18, 2021 at 11:41 a.m.

Passed and Approved this 15th day of April, 2021



Ori Blumenfeld, Chair