



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

Room 280A
455 North Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

April 21, 2022
9:00 a.m.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: April 21, 2022 / 9:00 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair Freeman led the Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Margo read the Human Relations Commission's Civility Statement.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Kaiserman, Margo, Vice Chair Freeman, Chair Sharp

Commissioners Absent: Nisim

Staff Present: Jenny Rogers, Rachel L. Evans, Enisha Clark, 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

With the concurrence of the Commission, the Chair may choose to amend the order of the items on the agenda. Chair Sharp moved Tab #8 after Tab #2 & #3 to accommodate the guest presenter.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 22, 2022.

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

AYES: Kaiserman, Margo, Vice Chair Freeman, Chair Sharp

NOES: None

ABSENT: Nisim

ABSTAIN: None

CARRIED

Resolution of the Human Relations Commission of the City of Beverly Hills Continuing to Authorize Public Meetings to be Held Via Teleconferencing Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e) and Making Findings and Determinations Regarding the Same.
Tabled.

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

Beverly Hills Police Department

Sergeant Jesse Perez, Community Relations, updated the Commission on the following:

- Coffee With A Cop is scheduled at Green Door on April 27, 2022 at 8am.
- Guac With A Cop, along with Next Beverly Hills as part of their First Thursdays Program, will be held at Tommy's Restaurant, 235 N. Canon, on Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 5pm. A Cinco de Mayo Community Celebration and Meet & Greet with BHPD.
- Breakfast With A Badge will be held, Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at Mickey Fine Pharmacy, 433 N. Roxbury Drive, from 8am – 9:30am.
- The department is currently recruiting for Junior Police Academy, which will be held during the summer, June 20 – 24, 2022, for ages 10 – 12. A behind-the-scenes experience with the Beverly Hills Police Department.
- The 2022 Citizen's Academy is in progress.
- The Beverly Hills Police Officers Association will be holding its Annual Police Services Day and Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, May 15, 2022 from 9am – 11am. This will be an Outdoor Event at 464 N. Rexford Drive that will include coffee, breakfast and interactive BHPD booths.
- National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, August 2, 2022.

Beverly Hills Unified School District

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

- The schools have been without masking for 2-3 weeks which has been uplifting for the students. Those who continue to wear masks are supported which includes staff, teachers and children.
- Outdoor student trips have opened up.
- Beverly Vista Middle School (BVMS) participated in "Dude. Be Nice" week, a national initiative to promote kindness and practice empathy on school campuses.
- 40 students attended Space Camp, led by science teacher Alexis Crane, was held in Huntsville, Alabama.
- The high school presented *Singin' in the Rain* musical production held at the Saban Theatre.
- NormanAid will be replicated in the middle school so they can utilize the same resources.

PRESENTATIONS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

Chair Sharp recognized City Council member John A. Mirisch.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

2. Beverly Hills Unified School District Engagement Project

Chair Rhoda Sharp presented on the preliminary concept of the Beverly Hills Unified School District (BHUSD) Engagement Project during the January 2022 Commission meeting. The goal of this project is to create a public service announcement that emphasizes an anti-hate message to school age children. The public service announcement(s) will then be used as an educational resource in Beverly Hills Unified School District curriculum and could potentially be shared with other school districts across the state and nation. The Commission voted to explore the concept further to identify a way to best execute this project.

The Commission is interested in bringing this project to fruition and remains dedicated to giving fair consideration to additional options that would maximize community involvement, collaboration with the BHUSD as an important City partner, while engaging local BHUSD students.

Dr. Michael Bregy, Superintendent of BHUSD, agreed to meet with the Commission along with, BHUSD Principals Craig Bugbee and Sarah Kaber, to discussed the possible collaboration with the District on this Commission project; how best to involve the District staff and BHUSD students.

- Dr. Michael Bregy, informed the Commission that this project needs to be integrated in the school's daily programs. The more people that they can involve in the schools the better. As educational leaders, they are aware of engaging the students in the curriculum, owning the curriculum, is the only way to spread messages and to keep them alive. They stated that the students can be used as resources that are available for videos, and would be a a unique opportunity for people to want to contribute. They stated that they are excited to be part of the project, but in order to keep the message alive and moving, they would need to use their students. The community will support the event if their students are involved.
- Jenny Rogers, Community Services Director reviewed the next steps:
 - Work with the ad hoc committee honing the discussed ideas into a report for our liaisons
 - If recommended by the liaisons, then the item moves forward to City Council for consideration
 - All the elements that include costs should be included

3. FY 2022-23 Community Assistance Grant Fund (CAGF)

The Human Relations Commission (HRC) ad-hoc committee, Chair Sharp and Commissioner Nisim, met on March 23, 2022 to review program proposals. In parallel, the Charitable Solicitations Commission (CSC) ad-hoc committee, Commissioner Lipton and Vice Chair Melamed, met to review each organization's fiscal status.

On April 5 and April 12, 2022, the HRC ad-hoc committee met jointly with the CSC ad-hoc committee to review their findings and to meet with any new applicants and applicants where committee members had questions regarding programing or financial information. The Joint Ad Hoc Committee only made funding recommendations based on the grant criteria, and did not make recommendations for the dollar amount that they felt should or should not be awarded. However, in some cases, the Committee did indicate if they felt that funding should be increased or decreased.

The Commission is asked to discuss the Joint Ad Hoc's recommendations, make changes if needed, and approve recommendations for presentation to Council Liaisons in May.

MOTION by Freeman, SECONDED by Kaiserman to recommend the proposed programs for Community Assistant Grant Funding for the following organizations: Affordable Living

for the Aging, All Saints' Homeless Assistance Program Bet Tzedek Legal Services, Beverly Hills Active Adult Club and Beverly Hills Community Farm. (4/0)

AYES: Kaiserman, Margo, Vice Chair Freeman, Chair Sharp
NOES: None
ABSENT: Nisim
ABSTAIN: None
PASSED

MOTION by Margo, SECONDED by Kaiserman to recommend the proposed programs for Community Assistant Grant Funding for the following organizations: Beverly Hills CPR, Beverly Hills Education Foundation (BHEF), Beverly Hills Theatre Guild and Chai Lifetime West Coast. (4/0)

AYES: Kaiserman, Margo, Vice Chair Freeman, Chair Sharp
NOES: None
ABSENT: Nisim
ABSTAIN: None
PASSED

MOTION by Margo, SECONDED by Sharp to recommend the proposed program for Community Assistant Grant Funding for the following organization: the Cancer Support Community Los Angeles. (4/0)

AYES: Kaiserman, Margo, Vice Chair Freeman, Chair Sharp
NOES: None
ABSENT: Nisim
ABSTAIN: None
PASSED

MOTION by Kaiserman, SECONDED by Freeman to recommend the proposed programs for Community Assistant Grant Funding for the following organizations: Chiron Center Inc., Collins & Katz Family YMCA. (4/0)

AYES: Kaiserman, Margo, Vice Chair Freeman, Chair Sharp
NOES: None
ABSENT: Nisim
ABSTAIN: None
PASSED

MOTION by Margo, SECONDED by Kaiserman to recommend the proposed program for Community Assistant Grant Funding for the following organization: ETTA. (4/0)

AYES: Kaiserman, Margo, Vice Chair Freeman, Chair Sharp
NOES: None
ABSENT: Nisim

ABSTAIN: None
PASSED

MOTION by Kaiserman, SECONDED by Margo to not recommend the proposed programs for Community Assistant Grant Funding for the following organizations: F.A.C.E. (Fearless, Artistic, Charisma, Elegance) and Iyengar Yoga Therapeutics. (4/0)

AYES: Kaiserman, Margo, Vice Chair Freeman, Chair Sharp
NOES: None
ABSENT: Nisim
ABSTAIN: None
FAILED

MOTION by Freeman, SECONDED by Kaiserman to recommend the proposed programs for Community Assistant Grant Funding for the following organizations: Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles, Miracle Project and OUR HOUSE Grief Support Center. (4/0)

AYES: Kaiserman, Margo, Vice Chair Freeman, Chair Sharp
NOES: None
ABSENT: Nisim
ABSTAIN: None
PASSED

It was agreed to table Jewish Free Loan Association.

MOTION by Freeman, SECONDED by Kaiserman to not recommend the proposed program for Community Assistant Grant Funding for the following organization: OPICA Adult Day Program & Counseling Center. (4/0)

AYES: Kaiserman, Margo, Vice Chair Freeman, Chair Sharp
NOES: None
ABSENT: Nisim
ABSTAIN: None
PASSED

MOTION by Freeman, SECONDED by Kaiserman to recommend the proposed programs for Community Assistant Grant Funding for the following organizations: People Assisting the Homeless (PATH), Saban Community Clinic, Safe Parking LA, Step Up On Second and The Maple Counseling Center. (4/0)

AYES: Kaiserman, Margo, Vice Chair Freeman, Chair Sharp
NOES: None
ABSENT: Nisim
ABSTAIN: None
PASSED

MOTION by Margo, SECONDED by Kaiserman to recommend the proposed programs for Community Assistant Grant Funding for the following organizations: Theatre 40, Tower Cancer Research Foundation, Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, West Coast Jewish Theatre, Westside Food Bank and Writers Bloc. (4/0)

AYES: Kaiserman, Margo, Vice Chair Freeman, Chair Sharp
NOES: None
ABSENT: Nisim
ABSTAIN: None
PASSED

4. Beverly Hills Homeless Initiative

Enisha Clark, Interim Clinical Program Coordinator, provided an update on Mayor Lili Bosse's new and expanded safety initiatives including:

- BHPD alert, a text message tool to immediately notify the community on police activity in the City.
- Real Time Watch Center will allow for around-the-clock live monitoring of cameras across our City's residential and business corridors.
- LIVE 911 which will enable police officers to hear emergency calls live in the field as they come in, allowing them to immediately respond.
- A reminder if anyone in the Community needs outreach services to contact the Beverly Hills Outreach Team (BHOT) at 310-487-0313.

5. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Awareness Initiative

Under the auspice of the Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) Initiative, the Human Relations Commission agreed to explore a quarterly speaker series entitled, *Critical Conversations*. This important community engagement and educational series is meant to be a catalyst to facilitate discussions directly linked to DEI issues in an effort to enhance community awareness.

The ad-hoc committee, consisting of Vice Chair Freeman and Commissioner Nisim, met Thursday, April 14, 2022.

- Vice Chair Freeman informed the Commission that a date of May 18, 2022, in addition to a back-up speaker, has been scheduled and will be announced soon.
- Jenny Rogers, Community Services Director, informed the Commission that a proposed funding budget has been created to present to City Council which includes this program.

6. Inter-Commission Collaboration: Embrace & Celebrate Culture

At this time, there are not any projects to report on this month. However, collaborators from the Human Relations and Arts & Culture Commissions along with Next Beverly Hills, will be meeting to discuss possible opportunities to collaborate in presentation of *Embrace & Celebrate Culture* events in FY 22/23. City staff will be working on a budget request to support these Inter-Commission initiative programs as part of the City's annual budget process and will be updates to the Commission as plans develop.

7. Kindness Recognition

The Kindness agenda item allows Commissioners the opportunity to highlight Acts of Kindness that have occurred within the City of Beverly Hills. Commissioners can recognize a community member who has made an impact through their act(s) of Kindness.

- Commissioner Kaiserman acknowledged, Samantha Wilson, a school teacher at Beverly Hills High School.
- Chair Sharp acknowledged Jason Malone, Executive Director of Sunrise Senior Living of Beverly Hills.

STATUS REPORTS

8. Beverly Hills Ambassador Program

Johnthon Hunter, Beverly Hills Ambassadors Operations Manager, reviewed the latest statistics with the Commission:

- In March 2022, the team increased their homeless outreach by 11%. The increase was due to new individuals arriving into the triangle in January and February of 2022. These individuals are panhandling and camping.
- The team is taking extra steps to engage these new individuals which then leads to being able to contact their families.
- Hospitality assistance has increased by 7% with the Ambassadors assisting the public with a variety of requests, but still less since pre-pandemic.
- Staff members are being trained for better engagement with the public.
- Their general calls have increased by 61%.
- Giving directions such as to businesses increased by 14%,

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

9. Chair Report

- a) Mayor's Cabinet Meeting
 - Reviewed
- b) Review Commission Meeting dates
 - Reviewed
- c) Good and Welfare. Other items brief announcements, request for information, and brief reports on activities
 - Vice Chair Freeman reminded the Commission that the next Guac with the Cops will be held at Tommy's Restaurant, 235 N. Canon, on Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 5pm.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

10. Administrator's Report

Rachel Evans, Human Services Administrator, provided the following information:

- Earth Day Celebration & Free Shredding at the Farmers' Market, Sunday, April 24, 2022
- Business with Bosse- Monday, April 25, 2022 from 6:30pm - 8:00pm at Tommy's Restaurant in Beverly Hills
- Live with Lili – Monday, May 9, 2022 from 7:00pm - 8:00pm at Beverly Hills City Hall
- Gatsby Redux 2022 will be held at Greystone Mansion on April 27- 29, 2022.

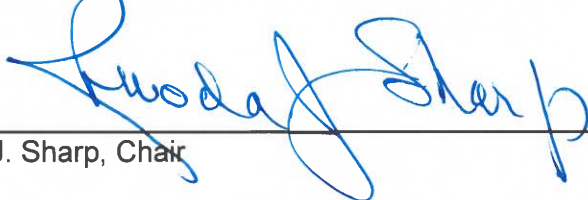
11. Overview of Current and Pending Agenda Items

- Reviewed

ADJOURNMENT

April 21, 2022 at 11:32 a.m.

Passed and Approved this 19th day of May, 2022



Rhoda J. Sharp, Chair