



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

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

**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

June 16, 2022
9:00 a.m.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: June 16, 2022 / 9:00 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Nisim led the Pledge of Allegiance

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

ROLL CALL

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

Commissioners Absent: Chair Sharp

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. The Vice Chair approved the agenda as presented.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 19, 2022.

MOTION by Kaiserman, SECONDED by Nisim to approve the Meeting Minutes as presented. (3/0)

AYES: Kaiserman, Nisim, Vice Chair Freeman

NOES: None

ABSENT: Chair Sharp

ABSTAIN: Margo

CARRIED

2. 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.

Recent legislation was adopted allowing the Human Relations Commission to continue virtual meetings during the COVID-19 declared emergency subject to certain conditions and the proposed resolution implements the necessary requirements.

Tabled.

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

Beverly Hills Police Department

Lieutenant Giovanni Trejo updated the Commission on the following:

- The Real Time Watch Center, a new hub to coordinate the City's many surveillance tools, officially launched June 7, 2022.
- On Tuesday, June 7, 2022, the department hosted Breakfast with the Badges at Mickey Fine Pharmacy on Roxbury Drive in Beverly Hills. These events are creating networks of communication with the Community.
- June 20 – 24, 2022, the department will be hosting the Junior Police Academy.
- June 28, 2022, 9am – 10:30am, Coffee with the Cops will be held at Starbucks at 9811 S. Santa Monica Boulevard.
- August 2, 2022, National Night Out from 6pm – 9pm.

Beverly Hills Unified School District

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

- The high school graduation and promotion ceremonies have concluded.
- For the summer, there will be a middle school boot camp at Beverly Hills Education Foundation (BHEF).
- At the last school board meeting, Juneteenth was presented with African American speakers discussing their experiences of being students in the district during the 1970s.

PRESENTATIONS

None

NEW BUSINESS

3. Civility Month

In 2017, the Commission declared October as Civility Month in Beverly Hills to further the civility initiative in the City. To commemorate the month, banners and posters will be displayed throughout the City.

- The Commission reviewed the current branding and agreed to continue with what is familiar to the City but suggested possible patches on the banner for updating.
- Commissioner Laura Margo presented more details of a Citywide donation day that would take place during Civility Month. It was agreed the Ad Hoc would meet to finalize to present to the Commission's liaisons.

4. Embrace Civility Award

The Embrace Civility Award, established in 2012, recognizes individuals or groups in the community that exemplify any or all of the following:

- Acts as a role model of positive behavior
- Takes a stand in support of respect and responsible actions
- Promotes positive neighbor to neighbor relations

The Embrace Civility Award nomination period will be announced and launches at the July 11, 2022 Mayor's Cabinet Meeting. Commissioners are asked to encourage community participation in the award program and motivate people to complete a nomination application. The nomination period closes on Monday, August 22, 2022.

5. Mental Health Awareness

At the May 19, 2022 Commission Meeting, Vice Chair Freeman requested that a Mental Health Awareness item be agendaized.

Rachel Evans, Human Services Administrator, informed the Commission on status of the City's Mental Health Evaluation Team (MET).

- DMH clinician is partnering with a police officer to join in mental health calls
- The DMH clinician can write mental health holds
- The request went to City Council on May 24, 2022 where it was unanimously approved
- Los Angeles County, in addition to our Police Department, will be hiring staff

Vice Chair Freeman informed the Commission that she did ask Mayor Bosse if there was a conflict with her mental health speakers.

- Vice Chair Freeman was informed the Commission could suggest speakers in addition to teaming up with the Health & Safety Commission or start their own initiative of taking care of one's mental health.
- Commissioner Kaiserman suggested partnering up with National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI).
- Staff will contact NAMI to schedule a speaker for a future Commission meeting.

Jenny Rogers, Director of Community Services, informed the Commission that July is National Park and Recreation Month that staff is considering partnering with Parks Prescription. ParkRx is a program encouraging people to spend time in nature.

- Vice Chair Freeman informed all of the nationwide hotline going live on July 16, 2022. The hotline is intended to be like 911, but for psychiatric instead of medical emergencies. That number will be 988.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

6. Beverly Hills Unified School District Engagement Project

The Ad Hoc was unable to meet and still waiting for proposals.

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

Rachel Evans, Human Services Administrator, informed the Commission that on June 14, 2022 City Council unanimously approved all of the Ad Hoc's and Liaisons' recommendations. Staff thanked Chair Sharp, Commissioner Nisim and Vice Chair Freeman for their hard work during this process.

- Commissioner Nisim thanked staff for their hard work in addition to making the process organized for them.

8. Beverly Hills Homeless Initiative

Enisha Clark, Human Services Specialist, introduced the members of the Beverly Hills Homeless Outreach Teams who provided the Commission with their responsibilities in addition to success stories:

- Beverly Hills Outreach Team (BHOT) consisting of Kevin Conner, Sabreah Sanchez and Ed Chavous who provide homeless outreach and linkage support to Step Up's services.
- Chris Paulson, Recreation Services Manager, introduced the two Park Ranger Supervisors, Daniel Hernandez and Juan Andrade. They updated the Commission on the Ranger program and how they coordinate with the Outreach Team. The Rangers launched a bike team in September 2021. In addition, the Park Rangers started an Outreach Program in 2021 which patrols all the parks at 5am, Monday – Friday.
- Vice Chair Freeman suggested a video of the above-mentioned staff and resources to show how unique the City of Beverly Hills is with the provided services. Staff agreed and will follow-up.
- Enisha Clark, Human Services Specialist, reminded the Commission that the best initial number is to contact the BHOT Team at 310-487-0313.

9. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Awareness Initiative

Enisha Clark, Human Services Specialist, updated the Commission on the Ad Hoc's June 8, 2022 meeting to finalize the first event.

- The first in-person event will be Donzaleigh Abernathy, author and civil rights activist. Her father is Reverend Ralph Abernathy who was an influential leader in the Civil Rights Movement. This event is scheduled for August 24, 2022 at 7pm.
- The Beverly Hills Public Library is co-hosting this event which will be held in the Library's Auditorium.

Jenny Rogers, Community Services Director, informed the Commission that the City will be acknowledging Juneteenth with the scheduled Concerts on Canon being held this evening, June 16, 2022 at Beverly Canon Gardens.

10. Inter-Commission Collaboration: Embrace & Celebrate Culture

Staff viewed the video created by Beverly Hills Cable Television from the City's Pride Night.

11. Kindness Recognition

Linda Kyriazi, Recording Secretary, thanked Commissioner Margo for agreeing to replace a last minute cancellation by a Recreation and Parks Commissioner who was to be a judge at Sunday's Farmers' Market Fiesta event.

STATUS REPORTS

12. Beverly Hills Ambassador Program

Johnthon Hunter, Beverly Hills Ambassadors Operations Manager, reviewed the latest camping activity in the City structures with the Commission:

- Camping activity has increased by May going up 15% but still less than last year.
- The Ambassador Team continues to engage with individuals and the BHOT Team.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

13. Chair Report

- a) Mayor's Cabinet Meeting
Reviewed
- b) Review Commission Meeting dates

MOTION by Freeman, SECONDED by Kaiserman for the Human Relations Commission to go dark for the month of August 2022 keeping our July 21, 2022 meeting. (4/0)

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

- c) Good and Welfare. Other items brief announcements, request for information, and brief reports on activities
 - Commissioner Margo asked about a social media page for Community Services flyers and Human Services success stories where the Commission could post.
 - Jenny Rogers, Director of Community Services, suggested the Human Services Quarterly newsletter in addition to the Community Services social media pages which is Beverly Hills Community Life.
 - Rachel Evans, Human Services Administrator, suggested share the flyers via their social media sights.
 - Commissioner Nisim asked how the Commission can get involved in future City events. Staff informed the Commission that events will be placed on future agendas in addition to events for 2023 being presented to City Council for budget approval.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

14. Administrator's Report

Rachel Evans, Human Services Administrator, updated the Commission on the following City events:

- Beverly Hills Public Library
- Business with Bosse
- Concerts on Canon
- Make Music Day
- Live with Lili

15. Overview of Current and Pending Agenda Items Reviewed

ADJOURNMENT

June 16, 2022 at 10:55 a.m.

Passed and Approved this 21st day of July, 2022



Noelle Freeman, Vice Chair