



**CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS**

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

In-Person / Telephonic / Video Conference Meeting

**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

November 17, 2022  
9:00 a.m.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Date/Time: November 17, 2022 / 9:00 a.m.

Chair Freeman read the Human Relations Commission's Civility Statement

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Freeman led the Pledge of Allegiance

**ROLL CALL**

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

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Jenny Rogers, Patricia Acuna; 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 Freeman moved up Tab #4 to accommodate presenter.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 20, 2022.
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.

MOTION by Nisim, SECONDED by Margo to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. (4/0)

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

CARRIED

## **REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES**

Beverly Hills Police Department

Lieutenant Giovanni Trejo updated the Commission on the following:

- Halloween had no significant incidents.
- November 5, 2022, the Crescent side of City Hall became the stage of a large gathering for Women's Lives & Freedom, with no reports of any incidents.
- November 17, 2022 will be the City's Holiday Lighting Celebration. An operational plan is in place.

Beverly Hills Unified School District

Staff from the Beverly Hills Unified School District was unable to attend.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **3. Emergency Management Presentation**

Meena Janmohamed, Emergency Management Manager, updated the Commission on the current emergency and earthquake safety procedures.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **4. FY 2023-24 Community Assistance Grant Funding (CAGF)**

Karen Constine, one of the City's arts consultants, provided a presentation that was made to the Arts and Culture Commission (ACC) on November 8, 2022 regarding a proposed plan to include the ACC in the cultural arts component in future CAGF processes.

- Commissioner Nisim expressed, as a member of the CAGF Ad Hoc, that the Arts & Culture submissions were challenging and felt this addition would be a benefit to the process.
- Rachel Evans, Human Services Administrator, informed the Commission that the 2023 CAGF application will be sent out to all current recipients on December 1, 2022 which will include outreach in the local papers. The application period will remain open until January 23, 2023.

### **5. 2023 Kindness Week Planning**

Kindness Week in 2023 starts on Sunday, February 12 through Saturday, February 18, 2023. The Commission reviewed what has been done in prior years in addition to suggesting new ideas.

- Commissioner Nisim suggested this year to engage the local businesses.
- Commissioner Kaiserman suggested a food donation on February 14, 2022.
- Vice Chair Margo suggested several ideas including Critical Conversation where kindness played a factor, visit a retirement community and bring along a project, assist with carrying groceries at a market, and organizing a Kind Squad that has monthly projects.

- The Beverly Hills Active Adult Club (BHAAC) has members from 55 +, suggesting the Commission bring someone in the 70s – 80s range to the BHAAC who has not attended. Neighbor to Neighbor helping; write a card to someone who isn't well, free ice cream from an ice cream truck.
- Chair Freeman informed the Commission of a monthly calendar that the Random Acts of Kindness Organization suggests. All of Vice Chair's suggestions could be placed on this calendar. The Commission agreed to keep the branded days.
- A peace pole or Kindness Tree was discussed.
- Rachel Evans, Human Services Administrator, suggested having one of this events at the Farmers' Market in addition to continuing to work with Library staff on a Story Time event.

## **CONTINUED BUSINESS**

### **6. Civility Month Review**

Enisha Clark, Human Services Specialist, reviewed the successful events that were scheduled for October, Civility Month, which included highlights from the first annual Day of Giving in addition to the 2022 Embrace Civility Award presentation.

- Chair Freeman thanked Vice Chair Margo for her vision of the Day of Giving.

### **7. Mental Health Awareness**

Enisha Clark, Human Services Specialist, updated the Commission on the local mental health services for the Community:

- Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's calendar for the months of October and November were reviewed which included online mental health services.

### **8. Beverly Hills Unified School District Engagement Project Tabled.**

### **9. Beverly Hills Homeless Initiative**

Rachel Evans, Human Services Administrator, updated the Commission on the November 15, 2022 City Council agenda item on the unhoused.

- There is a 24-hour centralized phone number for all unhoused issues: 310-285-2468.
- Photos can be sent to: [AskPW@beverlyhills.org](mailto:AskPW@beverlyhills.org)
- NASTEC will have an overnight patrol team in addition to handling the telephone service.
- Step-Up on Second team will provide expanded coverage.
- A consultant will be reviewing for any gaps in services.
- A City Council Ad Hoc was created consisting of both the Mayor and Vice Mayor.
- The Police Department will be contracting with Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health for the Mental Health Evaluation Team (MET).
- The Homeless Count will be take place on January 25, 2023.

### **10. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Awareness Initiative**

Chair Freeman updated the Commission on the productive Ad Hoc meetings which consists of herself and Commissioner Nisim.

- The next event is being scheduled for Kindness Week 2023.
- The Commission will review their current anti-hate statement.

- Commission Nisim suggested the Commission collaborate with the State, in addition to other Commissions, by reviewing their policies and implementing items and possibly creating new standards in the City.
- The Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations staff will return for their updated Hate Crime report.

#### **11. Kindness Matters**

- Commissioner Kaiserman acknowledged Vice Chair Margo in addition to a student who's experiencing a health issue. The Community gathered together and Vice Chair Margo contributed to the items that were sold at a rally to assist the family.
- Commissioner Kaiserman additionally acknowledged Danielle Lieber who joined Vice Chair Margo in organizing a luncheon at the BHUSD in a short time.
- Chair Freeman acknowledged Shawn Saeedian, owner of Beverly Hills Market, as always giving and ready to assist the community.

### **STATUS REPORTS**

#### **12. Beverly Hills Ambassador Program**

Johnthor Hunter, Beverly Hills Ambassadors Operations Manager, updated the Commission on the following:

- Since the Ambassador Team started, there has been an increase in the transient population with new unhoused coming into the City. There has currently been a decrease due to outreach interactions.
- Outreach referrals have increased from last year due to new transients.

### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION**

#### **13. 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

### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF**

#### **14. Administrator's Report**

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

- Rodeo Drive Holiday Lighting Celebration
- Holidays at Greystone
- Farmers' Market Holiday Craft Fair & Cookie Baking Contest
- Business with Bosse
- Live with Lili

#### **15. Overview of Current and Pending Agenda Items**

- Reviewed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

November 17, 2022 at 10:45 a.m.

Passed and Approved this 15th day of December, 2022



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Noelle Freeman, Chair