



**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**

March 16, 2023  
9:00 a.m.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Date/Time: March 16, 2023 / 9:00 a.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Freeman read the Human Relations Commission's Civility Statement and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Kraushaar, Kaiserman, Nisim, Vice Chair Margo, Chair Freeman  
Commissioners Absent: None  
Staff Present: Christopher Paulson, Enisha Clark, Stephanie Harris, Patty Acuna, and 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 Tab #4 to Tab #3.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 16, 2023.

MOTION by Kaiserman, SECONDED by Nisim to approve the Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2023 as presented. (5/0)

AYES: Commissioners Kraushaar, Kaiserman, Nisim, and Vice Chair Margo,  
Chair Freeman

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

CARRIED

## **REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES**

### **Beverly Hills Police Department**

Captain Giovanni Trejo, along with Lieutenant Reginald Evans, updated the Commission on the following:

- Captain Trejo introduced Lieutenant Evans as the new Executive Officer.
- The trend and theft of catalytic converters were reviewed and has lowered. Reminder to secure your vehicle inside your garage if you have one.
- Sunday, March 12, 2023 Vanity Fair event proceeded without issues.
- Tuesday, March 14, 2023, the Beverly Hills Police Department hosted "Pizza with Patrol" on Pi Day which was a great success.
- Friday, March 17, 2023 there will be a DUI checkpoint on North Santa Monica Boulevard and Crescent Drive at 5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, March 16, 2023 is the start of the Citizen Police Academy. The class is full.
- Sunday, March 19, 2023 is the Los Angeles Marathon. There will be hard street closures.
- Lieutenant Evans offered suggestions in securing your mailbox such as taking it directly inside the post office and emptying your mailbox daily.

### **Beverly Hills Unified School District**

Staff from the Beverly Hills Unified School District (BHUSD) was unable to attend this month.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **2. Unhoused Engagement & Outreach**

Abby Arnold and Jennifer Swan will provide an overview of the proposal as well as next steps for development of strategies and action items to identify gaps in services for the unhoused in Beverly Hills.

- Christopher Paulson, Interim Human Services Administrator, introduced Abby Arnold and Jennifer Swan who have been hired by the City to analyze and assess our existing resources for the unhoused as well as recommend additional improvements and modifications to our services.
- Their goals are to identify what the City can do and what resources are needed by way of involving residents, businesses, and government in the effort to solve homelessness.
- The Commission was asked to provide information as it relates to the unhoused in Beverly Hills in addition to any questions.
- An educational component was discussed to have for the Community.
- Vice Chair Margo suggested the City and community could sponsor the Tiny Homes for a possible space in Los Angeles.
- Renovating a motel, with services on-site, was discussed.

### **3. Mental Health Awareness – Beverly Hills Educational Foundation (CAGF Recipient)**

Farrah Dodes, President of Beverly Hills Educational Foundation, will provide an update on the organization's use of CAGF funds for mental health services in the school district.

- Farrah Dodes, President of the Beverly Hills Education Foundation (BHEF), along with Tina Wiener, Vice President of the Beverly Hills Education Foundation, updated the Commission on the organization's use of CAGF funds for mental health services in the school district.

- Following the BHEF presentation and under the Mental Health Awareness tab, Chair Freeman introduced a challenge where the Commissioners set an example for mental health by sharing information or some technique that gets them through life. Chair Freeman began by sharing affirmations such as: I am safe, I am creative, I am loved, I am expressive, I am intuitive, and I am divine.
- May is Mental Health Awareness Month and Chair Freeman proposed a day or activity the Commission can do in partnership with the Health & Safety Commission such as a location where booths can be provided with the City's mental health partners.
- Also in discussion under the Mental Health Awareness tab, Vice Chair Margo suggested the Commission bring back One Book One City, that the Human Relations Commission initiated 9 years ago, by partnering with both the school district and the Beverly Hills Public Library.
- Staff suggested Ad Hoc meetings be scheduled to flush out the suggestions.

**4. Beverly Hills Homeless Initiative**

Fernando Morales, Deputy Chief of Staff, and Vanessa Saldana, Field Deputy, for Los Angeles City Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky – Council District 5, will provide an update on the ongoing work and priorities of Councilwoman Yaroslavsky as it pertains to housing and homelessness.

- Fernando Morales, Deputy Chief of Staff, for Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky of Council District 5, provided updates to the Commission on ongoing work and priorities of the Councilwoman as it relates to homelessness matters at large and within bordering communities.
- Enisha Clark, Human Services Outreach Manager, reminded the Commission of the City's 24/7 Homeless Assistance Line: 310-285-2468.

**5. Community Assistance Grant Funding (CAGF): FY 2023-24 Update**

Julia Forth, Chief Executive Officer of Cancer Support Los Angeles, will be in attendance to provide a brief presentation regarding current services offered and grant utilization for 2022-23 fiscal year.

- Julia Forth, Chief Executive Officer of Cancer Support Los Angeles, updated the Commission on the current services offered by Cancer Support Community Los Angeles. Cancer Support Community Los Angeles is a FY 22-23 CAGF recipient.
- Enisha Clark, Human Services Outreach Manager, informed the Commission that the CAGF applications are being reviewed and have been distributed to the appropriate Commissioner Ad Hoc.

**CONTINUED BUSINESS**

**6. Embrace Civility: 2023 Kindness Week – Week in Review**

- The Commission, along with staff, reviewed the 2023 Kindness Week that included a presentation and video of the marketing and successful events from that week.

**7. Anti-Hate Initiative: Ad Hoc Update**

Commissioner Nisim updated the Commission from the Ad Hoc meetings:

- The Commissioners met with Captain Moulder of the West Hollywood's Sheriff's Department to learn about hate crimes vs hate incidents. Each City has a slightly different interpretation.
- How the City/Community deals with hate crimes as a whole was additionally discussed.
- Educating the Community in addition to working with other Cities in engagement and education.
- Commissioner Nisim met with Assemblymember Richard Bloom, who has been leading the State's Commission on hate.
- Phase 1 will be completed soon, and Phase 2 is the Community Survey which will be created following the research of Phase 1.
- Chair Freeman added that the West Hollywood Sheriff's Department is aware of their synagogue's so if an incident occurs, those can be reached out to and suggested the same for the Human Services Division.
- A joint Town Hall Meeting was additionally suggested to partner with other cities to unite as a coalition against hate.
- Chair Freeman shared that the next Critical Conversations event subject will be aligned with Jewish-American Heritage Month, taking place in May.

## **STATUS REPORTS**

### **8. Beverly Hills Ambassador Program**

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

- The Ambassadors are documenting the Safety-Escorting service that they now provide. This is a 24-hour safety escort to anyone within the City's triangle area. Several stories were highlighted as examples and steps taken.
- The Ambassadors can be reached at: 424-302-1487.
- Chair Freeman suggested updating their business cards noting the Safety Escorting.

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF**

### **9. Administrator's Report**

- Community Services Events:
  - Art Walks – Sunday, March 26, 2023, 11am, Beverly Gardens Park Lily Pond
  - Inside The Mansion – Saturday, April 1, 2023, Greystone Mansion
  - Music In the Mansion Festival, April 20 - 23, 2023, Greystone Mansion
  - MADE in Beverly Hills, May 4 – 7, 2023, Various City Locations
  - 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Beverly Hills Art Show: May 20 – 21, 2023, Beverly Gardens Park
  - Mayor's Installation, April 4, 2022, Wallis Annenberg Center, 7pm

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION**

### **10. Chair Report**

- a) Mayor's Cabinet Meeting
  - Reviewed
- b) 2023 Commission Work Plan
  - Reviewed
- c) Ad Hoc Committees
  - Reviewed
- d) Review Commission Meeting dates
  - Reviewed

- e) Good and Welfare. Other items, brief announcements, request for information, and brief reports on activities

**11. Kindness Matters**

- Commissioner Kraushaar gave a shout-out to Cecilia "CeCe" Bradley, the City's Farmers' Market Coordinator, who is the first face one sees when entering the Market. CeCe has been with the Beverly Hills Farmers' Market for over 25 years. She's located in the Information Booth where she is the heart, soul, and spirit of the Market.
- Commissioner Kraushaar additionally thanked Evan Doyle, Recreation Supervisor of the Farmers' Market.
- Chair Freeman thanked the out-going Mayor, Lili Bosse, who has attended all the Human Relations Commission's activities and projects. Mayor Bosse radiates goodness and kindness.

**ADJOURNMENT**

March 16, 2023 at 11:45 a.m.

Passed and Approved this 20th day of April, 2023

  
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Noelle Freeman, Chair