



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**

February 15, 2024
9:00 a.m.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date/Time: February 15, 2024 / 9:01 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Huma Ahmed, City Clerk, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Margo read the Civility Statement

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Kraushaar, Kaiserman, Freeman, Chair Margo
Commissioners Absent: Vice Chair Nisim
Staff Present: Christopher Paulson, Enisha Clark, Susana De La Torre, Patty Acuna, Joana Torres, 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.

Linda Kyriazi, Recording Secretary, informed Chair Margo that Tab #4, Annual California Report on Hate, would be tabled since the speaker was unavailable.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consideration of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 18, 2024.

MOTION by Kraushaar, SECONDED by Kaiserman to approve the Meeting Minutes of January 18, 2024, as presented. (4/0)

AYES: Commissioners Kraushaar, Kaiserman, Freeman, Chair Margo
NOES: None
ABSENT: Vice Chair Nisim
ABSTAIN: None
CARRIED

REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES

Beverly Hills Police Department

Lieutenant Myers provided an update:

- The statistics for the month of January 2024 were reviewed. Crime is trending down. Response time continues to decrease.
- The application process for Citizen Police Academy is still open for Spring 2024. It will close on February 20, 2024.
- Three Officers graduated from the Los Angeles Police Academy.

Beverly Hills School District

- The High School does an e-blast of Noble Normans where staff and students are recognized.
- Holocaust survivor, Herta Amir, spoke to students at the High School.
- Students participated in the Butterfly Project honoring those lost in the Holocaust.
- Norman Aid Peer Counselors spoke to the 8th Graders.
- Horace Mann Elementary, in addition to the District, recognized Black History Month
- Horace Mann Elementary had a Family Art Night in addition to a Multicultural Week.
- Hawthorne Elementary celebrated Kindness Week with Walk to School Wednesday.

PRESENTATIONS

2. Election Update

Huma Ahmed, City Clerk, will provide an update on the City's Election.

Huma Ahmed, City Clerk, informed the Commission on the upcoming March 2024 Beverly Hills General Municipal Elections.

- Beverly Hills has two seats up for election.
- Beverly Hills has consolidated its election process with Los Angeles County.
- Vote by Mail ballots have been mailed to all registered voters in Beverly Hills.
- Voting Options are: Vote by mail - USPS, Vote by Mail - Drop Boxes & Vote Center(s) - In Person Voting
- The Voting Centers are: The Beverly Hills Library Auditorium (11 days, February 24th – March 5th); Roxbury Park Clubhouse, La Cienega Tennis Center, Rodeo Room, and, Horace Mann School (4 days, March 2nd – March 5th).

3. CAGF Partner Presentation: Saban Community Clinic

Adam Friedman, Chief Marketing & Advancement Officer, will present medical services offered for free to low-income and unhoused individuals.

Adam Friedman, Chief Marketing & Advancement Officer, provided a presentation regarding the extensive range of services provided to their patients, including medical, dental, vision, and pharmaceutical.

- Over the past five decades, Saban Community Clinic has built an inclusive health ecosystem that meets people where they are and supports the health and well-being of the whole person. As an organization, they are committed to delivering empathetic care, of the utmost quality, to anyone who walks through their doors.
- For more information about their services and programs, please visit their website: <https://www.sabancommunityclinic.org/>

4. Annual California Report on Hate

Alec Watts, Assistant Deputy Director of Research and Strategic Initiatives with the California Civil Rights Commission, will provide an update on the recently released 2022-23 Commission on the State of Hate Report from the state of California.
Tabled.

CONTINUED BUSINESS

5. Election Civility Statement

Staff and Ad Hoc will provide an update.

Christopher Paulson, Human Services Administrator, informed the Commission that staff is waiting to hear back from the City Council Liaisons for a scheduled meeting to review the proposed revised Election Civility Statement.

- The Liaison meeting will include the ad hoc members Chair Margo and Commissioner Freeman.

6. 2024 Human Relations Commission Work Plan Schedule & Ad Hoc Committees

Commissioners reviewed, made edits, and approved the work plan at the January 2024 Commission meeting. Staff will review the 2024 Work Plan schedule and appointed Ad Hoc Committee members.

- Christopher Paulson, Human Services Administrator, reviewed the 2024 Work Plan chart along with Chair Margo's updated Ad Hocs.
- After a discussion, it was agreed to move BH Reads! under Embrace Civility and to create ad hocs for each event.
 1. Critical Conversations ad hoc is Vice Chair Nisim & Commissioner Kraushaar and BH Reads! would be a separate ad hoc and consist of Chair Margo & Commissioner Freeman.
 2. Day of Wellness ad hoc consists of Commissioners Freeman and Kraushaar.

7. Anti-Hate Initiative

Commissioners and staff will provide any available updates.

Susana De La Torre, Human Services Specialist, reported that the Network Against Hate Crimes met February 7, 2024. The key findings of the 2022 Hate Crime report were shared. For the past 8 years, hate crimes have been trending upwards.

- LA vs Hate coordinates a network of 24 organizations to provide support and services to persons who report to 211LA who have been targeted by hate. The goal is to take this data and turn it into concerted action to help people in the community. Staff has reached out to county staff to provide a full 2022 Hate Crime Report presentation in an upcoming commission meeting. More information and access to the complete 2022 Hate Crime Report, can be found at: <https://hrc.lacounty.gov/>

8. 2024-25 Community Assistance Grant Funding (CAGF)

Staff will provide updates on the 2024-25 application cycle.

Enisha Clark, Human Services Outreach Manager, provided an update:

- Community Assistant Grant applications went live January 18, 2024. The application is available online at www.beverlyhills.org/cagf
- Applications must be postmarked no later than Thursday, February 29, 2024, or submitted by email to humanservices@beverlyhills.org by 5:00pm on that date.

- During their February 14, 2024, meeting the Charitable Solicitations Commission selected two commissioners to serve on the joint ad hoc to assist with reviewing the fiscal health of all CAGF applicants: Chair Lipton & Commissioner Galen.

9. Beverly Hills Homeless Initiative

Staff will provide a recap of the 2024 Homeless Count.

Christopher Paulson, Human Services Administrator, provided an update of the 2024 Homeless Count:

- The 2024 Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's (LAHSA) Count took place January 23 - 25; 2024. The Homeless Count in Beverly Hills occurred on January 24th and was conducted by the City's outreach teams.
- In 2023, LAHSA decided to no longer release the census count at the City level, but to release data at the SPA Level, which includes eight service provider areas for the entire County of Los Angeles.
- Staff will continue to participate with LAHSA but will conduct their own City count in addition to continuing to use the Apricot software system.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

10. Administrator's Report

a) Black History Month

Christopher Paulson, Human Services Administrator, provided information on Black History Month which is celebrated in February. It is a time to recognize, celebrate, and honor the rich and diverse history and important contributions and achievements of Black and African Americans. The following is a partial listing of events in and around Beverly Hills that celebrate Black History Month:

- Beverly Hills Public Library - Exploring Identity, Love, and Being Black in America in Fiction Writing: A Conversation with Award-Winning Author Jason Mott. Virtual conversation on Tuesday, February 20th at 1pm at beverlyhills.org/beverlyhillspubliclibrary/
 - Open Arms Food Pantry and Resource Center will be holding their 8th Annual Black History Month festival at Pan Pacific Park on February 18th.
 - This Light of Ours: Activist Photographers of the Civil Rights Movement now on view at the Skirball Cultural Center through February 25th.
 - For a complete schedule of African American Heritage Month online and in-person events, visit the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) website: <https://culturela.org/events/category/african-american-heritage-month/>
- Chair Margo asked if the Critical Conversation with Donzaleigh Abernathy, Growing Up with Dr. Martin Luther King, video was still on the Human Services website. Staff will check with Beverly Hills Cable Television if it can be shown again during February's Black History Month or in March 2024.
- ##### b) Community Services Events Calendar
- Reviewed and flyers attached.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION

11. Chair Report

a) Mayor's Cabinet Meeting

- b) Ad Hoc Committees – TBD
- c) Review Commission Meeting dates.
- d) Good and Welfare. Other items, brief announcements, request for information, and brief reports on activities.
Tabled.

12. Kindness Matters


In honor of Kindness Week 2024, each Commissioner has invited someone they know from the community to be recognized for their Kindness efforts as *Thankful Thursday – Kindness Appreciation*. Each Commissioner introduced their Kindness Matters individual and described why they represent Kindness.

- Commissioner Kraushaar recognized Yangchen Dolkar, who currently works for the Beverly Hills Unified School District.
- Commissioner Kaiserman recognized JR Dzubak, who currently is a Commissioner for the Recreation and Parks Commission.
- Commissioner Freeman recognized Annette Saleh, who was a prior Commissioner for the Human Relations Commission.
- Vice Chair Nisim recognized Linda Kyriazi, who is currently a Recording Secretary for the City of Beverly Hills.
- Chair Margo recognized Dion Jackson, Founder of All Season's Fitness Media.
- All those recognized for their Kindness were presented with a certificate.

ADJOURNMENT

February 15, 2024, at 10:48 a.m.

Passed and Approved this 21st day of March, 2024



Laura Margo, Chair