

**CIVIL + HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUITY
DEPARTMENT**

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**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA**



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

LESLIE IVIE
CHAIR

HELENA MARISSA MONTES
VICE CHAIR

AZIZA HASAN
KANDEE LEWIS
KEITH PARKER
NATALIE SAMARJIAN
ABIGAIL ZELENSKI

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Regular Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2022
2:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Commission Chair Leslie Ivie called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. along with Vice Chair Helena Marissa Montes and Commissioners Keith Parker, Natalie Samarjian and Abigail Zelenski in attendance. Commissioner Kandee Lewis was absent. Commissioner Hasan arrived after the roll was called at 2:04 p.m. Commissioner Montes eventually left the meeting at 2:48 p.m.

Also in attendance were Capri Maddox, General Manager; Nicole Bryant, Chief Operating Officer, Mayra Medel, Executive Officer; Heather Aubry, Special Assistant City Attorney; Ruth Kwon, Deputy City Attorney IV; Joumana Silyan-Saba, Director of Policy & Discrimination Enforcement; and James K. Williams, Commission Executive Assistant II.

A quorum was established and the meeting proceeded.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

The public comment period was opened and there were no speakers to address the Commission, therefore the public comment was closed.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Zelenski moved to approve the Minutes of the November 10, 2022 Special Meeting.

Moved: Zelenski

Seconded: Montes

Ayes: Hasan, Ivie, Parker, Samarjian

Absent: Lewis

Vote: 6 - 0

The motion passed.

4. GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT:

Capri Maddox, General Manager, LA Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department shared an update on the yearlong activities of the department. The December 2022 “From Then to Now” Overview Deck can be viewed on the Civil Rights website at civilandhumanrights.org.

5. DISCRIMINATION ENFORCEMENT UPDATE:

Joumana Silyan-Saba, Director of Policy & Discrimination Enforcement gave an update on the progress of the enforcement arm of the Department. She introduced Ruth Kwon, Deputy City Attorney who will work alongside Heather Aubrey, Special Assistant City Attorney. She also introduced Lilian Calderon who was selected as the Special Investigator II to lead the Department’s investigation team. She announced that Discrimination Enforcement has been officially launched by way of a press conference with Mayor Garcetti.

6. NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS:

- a. The reconsideration and determination to continue holding the Commission on Civil Rights meetings via teleconference pursuant to Assembly Bill 361 (AB-361) was discussed by the Commission.

Commissioner Zelenski made a motion to continue holding commission meetings via teleconference. Commissioner Hasan seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Zelenski
Seconded: Hasan
Ayes: Ivie, Montes, Parker, Samarjian
Absent: Lewis
Vote: 6 - 0

The motion passed.

- b. Creation of an Ad hoc committee to further define “discrimination” within the parameters of the ordinance and identify training needs and opportunities for Civil Rights Commissioners.

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Zelenski moved to create an Ad hoc committee to further define “discrimination”. Commissioner Hasan seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Zelenski
Seconded: Hasan
Ayes: Ivie, Montes, Parker, Samarjian
Absent: Montes, Lewis
Vote: 5 - 0

The motion passed.

- c. Discussion of outreach efforts and possible creation of the Outreach Ad hoc committee.

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Zelenski moved to create the Outreach Ad hoc committee. Commissioner Parker seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Zelenski
Seconded: Parker
Ayes: Hasan, Ivie, Samarjian
Absent: Montes, Lewis
Vote: 5 - 0

The motion passed.

Items 6b and 6c were reopened to populate the Ad hoc committees.

6b. Commissioners Hasan and Zelenski volunteered for the Ad hoc committee to Further Define Discrimination.

6c. Commissioners Montes (per Joumana) and Parker volunteered for the Outreach Ad hoc committee.

Joumana Silyan-Saba will be the lead and contact for both Ad hoc committees.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

At the top of the meeting, Commissioner Ivie announced her resignation from the Commission due to a new and rather demanding job assignment. This is her last meeting as the Commission Chair for the Commission on Civil Rights.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Seeing no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 3:08 p.m.

NOTICE TO PAID REPRESENTATIVES: If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.ommission@lacity.org.