

**CIVIL + HUMAN RIGHTS AND
EQUITY DEPARTMENT**

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HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Minutes
John Lewis Conference Center
July 26, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER

Commission President Angelica Solis-Montero called the meeting to order at 12:11 p.m. along with Commissioners Pierre Arreola, Candice Cho, Michele Reed, Rosa Russell, and Maria Roman-Taylorson in attendance.

Commissioners Courtney Morgan-Green, Enrique de la Cruz, Melissa Grant, Brittany McKinley, and Brooke Wirtschafter were absent.

Those also in attendance included Claudia Luna, Assistant General Manager; Heather Aubry, Assistant City Attorney; Francisco Ortega, Senior Project Coordinator; Lilita Villa, Human Relations Advocate, 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. There were no speakers to address the Commission. Therefore, public comment was closed.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Commission postponed the review and approval of the Minutes of the May 24 and June 28, 2023 Regular Meetings until the next meeting.

4. DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Claudia Luna, Assistant General Manager, Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department, gave an update on the Department's activities and goals. She shared the LA Civil Rights Overview Deck for July 2023. This presentation can be viewed at civilandhumanrights.lacity.gov.

5. PRESENTATION

In honor of Minority Mental Health Awareness Month, Mirtala Parada Ward, Program Manager III from the Anti-Racism, Diversity and Inclusion (ARDI) and Sandra T. Chang, Ph.D., Program Manager, ARDI-Cultural Competency Unit at the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health shared a presentation on the effects of discrimination on the mental health of minorities and marginalized people.

6. TAC REPORT

Karina Samala, Chair of the Transgender Advisory Council gave an update on the recent activities of the TAC. She spoke about their goals and upcoming events. She noted that TAC partnered with the LA City Personnel Department for an online Transgender & Gender Diversity Inclusivity Training made available to all City employees. TAC will hold a Trans & Non-Binary Career Fair on September 13, 2023. TAC will move to in-person meetings at the John Lewis Conference Center.

7. LGBTQIA+ Liaison Update

Carla Ibarra, LA City Civil Rights' LGBTQIA+ Liaison, provided updates with her work in advancing policy to make the City a welcoming and inclusive space for trans and non-binary people. Ms. Ibarra agreed to work with Commissioner Arreola and TAC members to provide a report to the LA County Human Relations Commission.

8. AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATES

Francisco Ortega, LA City Civil Rights' Senior Project Coordinator, spoke about the progress of the Young Adult Dinner Dialogues. Community members were asked a series of questions about their interaction with the police and were given an opportunity to share their experiences and emotional reactions. The community offered suggestions on improving relationships with the Police Department. He noted that there will be two more dialogues added to the project.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Solis-Montero announced that the regular Commission meeting of August 23, 2023 has been canceled. The following Commission meeting will be held on September 27, 2023.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 2:03 p.m.