

**CIVIL + HUMAN RIGHTS AND
EQUITY DEPARTMENT**

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KANDEE LEWIS
HOANG NGUYEN
CINDY PÁNUCO
DIANE ROBERTSON
NATALIE SAMARJIAN

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Commission Chair Abigail Zelenski called the meeting to order at 2:21 p.m. along with Commissioners Mary Lee, Hoang Nguyen, Cindy Pánuco, and Natalie Samarjian in attendance.

Commissioners Kandee Lewis and Diane Robertson were absent from this meeting.

Also in attendance, were Kim Kasreliovich, Assistant General Manager; Claudia Luna, Assistant General Manager; Heather Aubrey, Assistant City Attorney; Joumana Silyan-Saba, Director of Policy & Discrimination Enforcement. A quorum was established and the meeting proceeded.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no speakers to address the Commission.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The Commission reviewed the minutes of the August 10, 2023 Regular Commission meeting. Commissioner Nguyen made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Pánuco seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Nguyen
Seconded: Pánuco
Ayes: Zelenski, Lee, Samarjian
Abstain:
Absent: Lewis, Robertson

Vote: 5 - 0

The motion passed.

4. PRESENTATION:

Filipino American History Month

Melany De La Cruz-Viesca, Deputy Director, UCLA Asian American Studies Center provided an abbreviated history of Filipino American history. She highlighted some invaluable Filipino contributions and achievements in America, along with their struggles against discrimination.

5. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- a. Kim Kasreliovich, Assistant General Manager, gave the Department updates. The AGM highlighted some recent events, such as LA for All Week, Tom LaBonge Day of Service, and the Transgender Advisory Council's job fair. LACR also hosted some special visitors recently, such as Father Gregory Boyle of Homeboy Industries and the Department on Disability.
- b. AGM Kasreliovich also provided the Civil Rights Enforcement Update. CRE has been receiving more inquiries and complaints, with September receiving the highest number so far. AGM Kasreliovich noted that meetings with local organizations have been the most effective in expanding outreach. The Commission Hearing Examiner position is still unfilled, with a need for five individuals to hear cases as needed.

6. DISCUSSION:

- a. The adoption of a Commission logo was discussed by AGM Kim Kasreliovich. She explained that a logo would convey a formal look on Commission documents. Two different logos were presented for comment. AGM Kasreliovich agreed to make edits, then present the updated logo at the next meeting.
- b. The Commission had a follow up discussion about recent migrant arrivals, in relation to the City's Human Rights Law. Commissioners explored appropriate outreach strategies to give resources to migrants, while refocusing this as a Civil Rights issue. Some suggestions were to create a one sheet of information on the Civil Rights Department or set up a Listserv of potential resources.

7. AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Commissioner Zelenski provided the Ad Hoc updates. She shared that training Module II is in the process of being finalized with the voice over recording. The Department will be sharing both training modules 1 and 2 for the commissioners to view in advance of the workshops, which will be scheduled as a follow-up.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Pánuco thanked everyone who worked at the CLE event for Latino Heritage Month. Commissioner Zelenski invited everyone to the upcoming Filipino American History Month celebration at City Hall on October 20, 2023.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Seeing no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 3:41 p.m.