

**CIVIL + HUMAN RIGHTS AND
EQUITY DEPARTMENT**

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HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 24, 2024

12:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Commission President Brittany McKinley called the meeting to order at 12:26 p.m. Present at roll call were Vice-President Pierre Arreola, Commissioners Melissa Grant, Enrique de la Cruz, Courtney Morgan-Greene, Michelle Reed, and Rosa Russell.

Commissioners Candice Cho, Maria Roman-Taylorson, Angelica Solis-Montero, and Brooke Wirtschafter were absent.

Also in attendance were LA Civil Rights Department General Manager and Executive Director, Capri Maddox; Assistant General Manager, Claudia Luna; Deputy City Attorney, Barak Vaughn; Executive Officer, Mayra Medel; Senior Project Coordinator, Francisco Ortega; Human Relations Advocate, Liliana Villa; Management Assistant, Chloe Coventry; and Commission Executive Assistant, Tyna Blackman.

4. PRESENTATION – Arab-American Heritage Month

Sireen Sawaf, Member, Muslim Bar Association of Southern California, gave an overview of the Arab-American presence in Los Angeles including their challenges, obstacles, and immigration patterns from the Arab World.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner de la Cruz shared a public comment about the commission's strategic priorities. There were no other public comment cards submitted, therefore public comment was closed.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Commission reviewed the minutes of the March 27, 2024 Regular meeting. Commissioner Russell made a motion to approve the March 27, 2024 meeting minutes. Commissioner Grant seconded the motion, and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Russell
Seconded: Grant
Ayes: Arreola, de la Cruz, McKinley, Morgan-Greene, Reed
Absent: Cho, Roman-Taylorson, Solis-Montero, Wirtschafter

Vote: 7 - 0

The motion passed.

5. VISIONING WORKSHOP – HR&A Advisors

Rachel Webster, Andrea Batista Schlesinger, and Garrett Robinson of HR&A Advisors led a Vision Workshop with the focus of helping the board members understand commission opportunities and initiatives. The workshop highlighted the following topics:

- Overview of the Work of HR&A Advisors
- Long Term Strategic Priorities Plan
- Functions and Constraints of the Human Relations Commission

HRC Commissioners offered feedback and input regarding the role of the HRC within the City of Los Angeles. A robust conversation and an exchange of ideas were had. HR&A Advisors will consider all that was discussed and debrief with department staff and the Commission executive leadership team. HR&A will join the commission for an Operations workshop in July 2024.

Capri Maddox, General Manager, responded with what the department would like the commission to prioritize: focusing on hate crime prevention, celebrating diversity through Heritage Month celebrations, and increasing equity in underserved communities.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements made by Commissioners or LA Civil Rights staff.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 2:33 p.m.