CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

September 20, 2012
455 N. Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210
City Hall, Room 280-A
9:30 a.m.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Pease, Ginsburg, Nazarian, Sherman, Linder

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Latta, Kahn, Kyriazi

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Tab 1. REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 19, 2012:

MOTION by Sherman, SECONDED by Pease to approve as presented (3/0)

AYES: Pease, Sherman, Linder
NOES: None
ABSENT: Ginsburg
ABSTAIN: Nazarian
CARRIED

Commissioner Ginsburg arrived at 9:32 a.m.

ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

CONTINUED AND NEW BUSINESS

Tab 2. COMMISSION REPORTS:

HRC REPRESENTATIVES

Dr. Brian Goldberg from the Beverly Hills Unified School District was not present.

Sgt. Gregg Mader from the Beverly Hills Police Department was not present.

Report from Officer James Keenaghan, the new bike patrol from the Beverly Hills Police Department.
Provided an update on:

- No new reported hate crimes.
- State-wide, hate crimes are down 4% from last year.
- Panhandlers need to be 15 feet from ATMs and City parking structure entrances. They are not allowed to ask outside diners for anything. PD must observe in order to enforce. They suggest patrons to donate to a food pantry or shelter and not from the outdoor dining areas.
- Call the non-emergency PD line, 550-4951, to report any infractions so they can inform the panhandlers of the ordinance. If officially reported, witnesses do need to sign their report.
- Reminder about the Nixle web-based program. Text your zip code to 888-777 to receive updates on crime alerts, emergencies and weather data.

ADMINISTRATOR

Report from Human Services Administrator James R. Latta, L.C.S.W.

1. This is our first video-taped meeting. It'll be available on the City's web site.
2. July 26th, Rudy Cole interviewed Chair Linder, Human Services Outreach Manager Julie Kahn, and Mason A. Sommers from The Maple Counseling Center, on his *Inside Beverly Hills* TV show.
3. August 7th was the National Night Out celebration. It was a fun event with a good turnout.
4. September 10th was the Annual Senior Health Fair at Roxbury Park; sponsored by Cedars Sinai. A lot of information was distributed.
5. Wendy Hughes was introduced as the City's National Urban Fellow for this year, under the direction of City Manager Jeff Kolin. Wendy will be working with Staff on panhandling and outreach to visitors and the residential and business communities on the importance of making positive change not providing spare change.
6. Amendment to the Human Relations Commission Ordinance, regarding number of non-resident commissioners following the change from seven to five commissioners, was approved by City Council August 23rd.
7. Yar Meshkaty will be acknowledged at tonight's City Council for his six years of service on the Human Relations Commission.
8. City Election date March 5, 2012 will be a good time to talk about Civility and the Embrace Civility Award.
9. Distributed hand-out of ruling from Ninth Circuit Court, September 11, 2012: *Ninth Circuit Reaffirms Cities' Ability to Regulate Disruptive Speech at Public Meetings,* which talks about what is and is not allowed at a City Council Meeting.

CHAIR

Vice Chair Sherman gave a brief update on the Mayor's Cabinet meeting.

Tab 3. CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR ROTATION:

Annual September rotation and election of the Commission Chair and Vice Chair.

MOTION by Linder, SECONDED by Pease: I nominate Commissioner Ilona Sherman to be the chair of our Human Relations Commission for the coming 2012 – 2013 session. (5/0)

AYES: Pease, Ginsburg, Nazarian, Sherman, Linder
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
CARRIED

MOTION by Nazarian, SECONDED by Linder: I move that Commissioner Ginsburg take the roll of Vice Chair for the coming year. (5/0)

AYES: Pease, Ginsburg, Nazarian, Sherman, Linder
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None
CARRIED

Tab 4. EMBRACE CIVILILTY: BULLYING PREVENTION VIDEO COMPETITION STATUS REPORT:

The Commission plans to link their Bullying Prevention Video competition with the announcement of the City's new website in October 2012. Staff has been in touch with the media crew of Beverly Hills High School and they are enthusiastic about the project.

The Bullying Prevention Ad Hoc, Chair Sherman and Vice Chair Ginsberg, agreed to meet on October 1st. from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. to prepare for the October 2nd City Council 2:30 p.m. Study Session.

A meeting with the Teen Advisory Committee has been scheduled to review their feedback.

Tab 5. REQUEST FOR RAOUL WALLENBERG REMEMBRANCE:

A private citizen wants to contribute $10,000 towards a request that will be made of the City Council for a remembrance of Raoul Wallenberg's 100th birthday.

The Commission discussed the pros and cons of the requested contribution which will be submitted to Council for their October 2 City Council Meeting.

Tab 6. PROMOTION PLAN FOR THE 2013 EMBRACE CIVILITY AWARD:

The Commission reviewed the 2013 promotion plan for the next Embrace Civility Award which covers various opportunities and dates within the City's planned events.

Tab 7. REVIEW OF 2012 BIENNIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE REPORT:

The Commission reviewed the 2012 Biennial Conflict of Interest Code.

> MOTION by Sherman, SECONDED by Nazarian: I move that the code remain the way it is and that we have no change recommended. (5/0)
>
> AYES: Pease, Linder, Nazarian, Ginsburg, Sherman
> NOES: None
> ABSENT: None
> ABSTAIN: None
> CARRIED

Tab 8. OVERVIEW OF CURRENT AND PENDING AGENDA ITEMS UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION:

The Commission reviewed the status of pending items and requested a presentation from the Charitable Solicitations Commission, in case more requests, like the Wallenberg one, come before the Commission.

CALENDAR FOR 2012-13 COMMISSION MEETING DATES:

No changes.

COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS INCLUDING TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:

None.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

Commissioner Nazarian asked that in her absence at the City Council meeting that evening thanking former Commissioner Meshkaty for his years of service and his dedication as he retires from the Commission, her gratitude be extended on her behalf. Also, congratulations to Commissioner Linder for her work as Chair and our new Chair Sherman and Vice Chair Ginsburg. We're looking forward to a wonderful year.

For anybody who is celebrating Rosh Hashanah, I wanted to wish everyone, whether they're celebrating or not, a very happy, healthy, sweet New Year and wonderful things to happen in the year to come.

Chair Sherman reminded the Commission to check out the City's new web site.

Outgoing Chair Linder thanked the Commission for her gift. The Demonstration Garden at Greystone now has a blog at: http://greystonedemonstrationgarden.blogspot.com/

Wendy Hughes, National Urban Fellow, informed the Commission that volunteers are requested for the City's Centennial. September 27th is a volunteer call-out at Greystone from 5pm – 7pm.

ADJOURN

Chair Sherman adjourned the meeting at 11:37 p.m.

PASSED, Approved and Adopted

This _____ day of _____, 2012

_____
Sherman, Chairperson