



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: December 20, 2012
To: Human Relations Commission
From: James R. Latta, L.C.S.W., Human Services Administrator
Subject: Overview of Current and Pending Agenda Items under
Consideration by the Human Relations Commission

JWD

Attachment I: Status List of Human Relations Commission Agenda Items

The following report is provided to the Human Relations Commission as an information item.

INTRODUCTION

At the January 20, 2011 Human Relations Commission meeting during *Comments by Commissioners Including Topics for Future Agendas*, a request was made to develop a tool for tracking the Commission's work. The report gives a brief overview of the current and pending agenda items and provides a calendar for upcoming items.

BACKGROUND

The Commission plays an important role in extending the reach of democracy into the community. As the eyes and ears of the community, the Commission examines issues of concern within the scope of their mission and discusses them in depth at meetings where public input is encouraged. As an advisory body to City Council, the Human Relations Commission responsibilities are as follows:

- Advises, recommends, assists and encourages activities that promote positive human relations in all aspects of community life
- Actively promotes a just and equitable multi-cultural society
- Endeavors to reduce conflict and tension, as well as discrimination, prejudice and stereotyping based on race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, or any other arbitrary factor
- Defining, identifying and tracking existing and emerging issues that may benefit from intervention or conflict resolution
- Receiving citizen complaints, in an appropriate time and manner, concerning the interactions of City employees with the public.

Issues and items for Commission consideration may be generated through many sources including the public, the Commission representatives (BHUSD, BHPD), the staff, the Commission, its ad hoc committees, Council liaisons and by direction or action of City Council. At Commission meetings, information is generally conveyed to the Commission through presentations, public comment, staff reports, information included in commission packets and comments made by commissioners and staff. These types of communications between the Commission, the public, staff and the City Council enable the Commission to fulfill its mission.

DISCUSSION

At the Commission's request, staff prepared a recurring agenda item to give each member the opportunity to review past, current and upcoming agenda items. It can be challenging to track the Commission's work when meeting just monthly. The Commission minutes offer continuity from meeting to meeting, but do not always provide a complete picture of the Commission's work in progress. The tentative list of upcoming Commission agenda items includes; active, pending, yearly agenda items and a list of motions since December 2011.

This information gives members of the Commission a more comprehensive view of current and upcoming agenda items. Due to the interactive nature of municipal government, scheduling dates of agenda items and the topics to be presented are subject to change. ***Please note that items that have recently been added to the list are in bold italics.***

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with the discussion of this Agenda Item.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that prior to each meeting, Commissioners review the list of upcoming agenda items to be considered and make comments, if any, during the Commission meeting.

Status List of Human Relations Commission Agenda Items

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	5/17/2012	MOTION by Ginsburg, SECONDED by Nazarian: Move that this Commission actively pursue the possibility of requesting that all chairs of commissions, committees or groups that gather under the aegis of the City including in their opening statements a review of the civility policy that has been adopted by the city. (5/0)	Pending
	5/17/2012	MOTION by Linder, SECONDED by Sherman: Because Nominee #7 meets all of the criteria established by the Human Relations Commission for the Embrace Civility Award, I move that nominee #7 be granted the first Embrace Civility Award to be given by the this Commission. (5/0)	Done
	5/17/2012	MOTION by Linder, SECONDED by Sherman: Move that the Commission undertake the project that our ad hoc committee has proposed to us that we advertise to the community as soon as possible a YouTube video competition on the subject of Bullying Prevention (5/0)	Done
	4/19/2012	MOTION by Ginsburg, SECONDED by Nazarian: Move that the Human Relations Commission select the first recipient of the Civility Award in May and that the presentation be made in June at which time the announcement for the subsequent award will be given in October, relative to bullying. (4/2)	Done
	4/19/2012	MOTION by Sherman, SECONDED by Pease: to amend motion that the Human Relations Commission select the first recipient of the Civility Award in June, as opposed to May, and that the presentation be made in July at which time the announcement for the subsequent award will be given in October, relative to bullying. (3/3)	Failed
	4/19/2012	MOTION by Linder, SECONDED by Sherman: Move that the Human Relations Commission commit to a program towards bullying prevention month in October for the City of Beverly Hills and that the ad hoc that had previously been appointed on this issue, Vice Chair Sherman, Commissioner Ginsburg and Chair Linder as alternate, meet during the coming month to provide a workable plan. (6/0)	Done
	3/15/2012	MOTION by Nazarian, SECONDED by Pease: Propose we have May 13 and May 20 for Celebrate Your Heritage at Farmer's Market as opposed to the Art Fair on May 19 and May 20. (6/0)	N/A
	2/16/2012	MOTION by Linder, SECONDED by Pease: Our participation, in Celebrate Your Heritage, be the 2 days of the Art Show and our booth an opportunity for the Human Relations Commission to promote the Embrace Civility Award and provide nomination forms. (4/2)	N/A
	2/16/2012	MOTION by Meshkaty, SECONDED by Nazarian: For the Commission to allow Commissioner Meshkaty to discuss with the Farhang Foundation Board to arrange for the details of attendance of the Human Relations Commission and possibly the Mayor, to attend the 2pm or evening session at the March 18th event. (6/0)	N/A
	2/16/2012	MOTION by Linder, SECONDED by Nazarian: On March 6, at the formal City Council Meeting, that the Human Relations Commission ask the Mayor if we can use his "Take A Moment" segment to introduce to the City Council, and to the City, the symbols of 6 different cultures including the Haft Seen table. (6/0)	Done
	1/19/2012	MOTION by NAZARIAN, SECONDED by Pease: The week of March 15, we move forward with: attend the LACMA [Farhang Foundation 2012 Nowruz Celebration, Sunday, March 18] event; a hospitality booth at the Farmers' Market; bring Haft Seen to our Commission meeting as well as City Council; author at the library, if possible; Commission visit Hawthorne School children; and take a world map to the Farmers' Market as a form of a Celebration of Spring. (4/1)	Done
	1/19/2012	MOTION by NAZARIAN, SECONDED by Pease: We pencil in Celebrate Your Heritage week for May 13 through May 20. (5/0)	Done
	1/19/2012	MOTION by MESHKATY, SECONDED by Pease: To [pursue] working with the Fine Art Commission to promote the Plensa [Endless] III sculpture. (5/0)	N/A
	12/15/2011	MOTION by GINSBURG, SECONDED by Nazarian that this discussion to complete the details that are necessary to execute the civility award effectively be continued in the January 2012 meeting. (6/0)	Done
	12/15/2011	MOTION by SHERMAN, SECONDED by Nazarian that we combine Heritage week and the celebration of the first day of Spring as a combined priority item on our list. (4/2)	Done