



Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations

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[PROPOSED] MINUTES
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS
Meeting of December 2, 2019
WDACS Teamwork/Ray Bartlett Conference Room

PRESENT:	Jarrett Tomás Barrios Ilan Davidson Jeanette Ellis-Royston Porter Gilberg Isabelle Gunning Derric Johnson	Preeti Kulkarni Sam Liu Guadalupe Montaña (By Phone) Fredrick Sykes Sandra Thomas (By Phone)
ABSENT:	Michael Gi-Hao Cheung Adrian Dove	Sam Liu
STAFF:	Robin Toma Ray Regalado Robert Sowell	Pierre Arreola Joshua Parr

- 1. Call to Order/Flag Salute and Moment of Silence:** President Jarrett Barrios called the meeting to order at 12:38 p.m. with a quorum of 10 commissioners in attendance. Commissioner Derric Johnson led the flag salute and a moment of silence was observed.
- 2. Approval of Minutes:** It was moved by Commissioner Ilan Davidson and seconded by Commissioner Jeanette Ellis-Royston to approve the minutes of the Commission meeting of November 4, 2019, as presented in the agenda packet. The motion carried unanimously.

3. President's Report

- 3.1 LA County Sheriff Civilian Oversight Commission Conference "Community Policing in LA County: Redefining Public Safety":** President Barrios invited attendees of the November 16 conference to share their impressions. Lead liason and senior staff member Pierre Arreola thanked the Commission for supporting sponsorship of the conference as well as contributing with presentations. He shared a video encapsulating some of the event highlights. Executive Director Toma suggested incorporating small group discussions earlier in the day in order to increase community engagement with the key issues. Commissioner Davidson agreed that shifting the discussions to earlier in the day to encourage interaction and more participation could be an improvement, though the roundtables were successful. Commissioners Ellis-Royston and Sykes commended the thematic elements, along with

law enforcement presence and participation. Commissioner Preeti Kulkarni noted the importance of the HRC's presence and presentations, balancing the overall tone and mood of the event. Commissioner Johnson particularly thanked Commissioner Isabelle Gunning for setting the tone of the conference as a plenary panel moderator. Barrios found the subjects substantive, however, he wished that the keynote bore more relation directly to community policing as opposed to criminal justice.

4. Executive Director's Report

Update on Anti-Hate Initiative, Countywide Equity Initiative, and Hiring: Mr. Toma reported that representatives from departmental equity teams will be gathering at an upcoming convening to launch the planning of the *2020 Countywide Equity Initiative's* Summit, likely in January. The central coordinating committee is also in the process of finalizing its application to the Quality & Productivity Commission (QPC) for a Productivity Investment Fund (PIF) grant. Additionally, WDACS/LACCHR and DHR are contracting and partnering with the Government Alliance on Race & Equity (GARE) to support the Countywide Equity Initiative's racial equity work with all county departments.

Separately, he announced some progress has occurred in discussing and reviewing with Human Resources the challenges of competing inter-division *hiring* requests. Movement on pending hiring items is happening as the branch continues pressing the HR division, with more progress expected this month on the hiring of an HSA I and Senior HRC dedicated to the *Anti Hate Initiative*, among other positions.

4.1 NAIC Native American Heritage Month and Pow Wow Celebration: The Native American Indian Commission (NAIC) hosted two successful and uplifting events last month, a Native American Heritage Month celebration and the annual Pow Wow, one of the largest Native American gatherings in the region. He praised the interim NAIC Executive Director, Sandi Mitchell for her work while Alexandra Valdes is out on family leave.

4.2 Board Opposition to Changes in Federal Health and Human Services Regulations: The Board will consider a motion tomorrow by Supervisor Solis, authorizing a Board letter in opposition to a U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) decision discriminating against the LGBTQ, Jewish, and Islamic communities. The action would also adjoin the County to related litigation and advocacy.

5. Committee Reports

5.1 Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Human Relations: Committee Chair Isabelle Gunning shared that the committee met with the WDACS Acting Director's executive communications and video team to discuss the video component of the Policing report. They will convene again in January to review video composition and add emphasis to the theme of redefining public safety. She anticipates a presentable product to the full Commission in February.

5.2 John Anson Ford (JAF) Awards Event Committee: No report. Committee Chair Davidson encouraged all to begin thinking about next year awardees.

5.3 Ad Hoc IAOHRA LA 2020 Conference Committee: Committee Chair Davidson shared that after conversations with IAOHRA's national committee, all parties are in agreement with planning. IAOHRA understands the host members take the conference planning seriously and is impressed with the advance made thus far. Host members are in the process of considering speakers and sponsors, which are then

ratified by the national committee. A preliminary budget was presented to the national members and met with approval. The next committee meeting is currently being scheduled. Davidson expressed the intent in due time to meet with Mayor Garcetti and Supervisor Janice Hahn to secure sponsorship.

- 5.4 Ad Hoc Policy and Advocacy Committee:** Committee Chair Guadalupe Montañó expressed that the committee desires the commission's support to recommend to the Board of Supervisors, adoption of the Convention on the Elimination of all Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Mr. Toma added the HRC is also working in conjunction with the County's Women & Girls Initiative (WGI) and Commission for Women, to coordinate adoption of similar recommendations to the Board. WGI has successfully passed a similar recommendation, and the Commission for Women will convene next Monday to consider the same and to receive UC Irvine's CEDAW presentation. Commissioner Porter Gilberg expressed concern that general adoption may inadvertently conflate and negatively affect or target sex industry workers. Though largely a process question, he is encouraging of sex industry advocacy organizations having their voice equally represented at the table.

It was moved by Commissioner Montañó and seconded by Commissioner Gunning to recommend to the Commission that it vote to recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt CEDAW, with specific language for an ordinance to come (back to the Commission for action) after further consultation and collaboration with the LA County Women & Girls Initiative (WGI) and the LA County Commission for Women. The motion carried unanimously.

Separately, regarding the possible restructuring and reorganization of the WDACS department, feedback from the previous commission meeting continues being integrated. The hope is that the final recommendation will come before the full commission in January. Meantime, Mr. Toma will reach out to the consultants charged with the report back and request that HRC be consulted—preferably in a meeting, to ensure HRC's voice in the process. He will inquire into the identity of consultants and the the process of securing input, and he will update the commission.

6. Action/Discussion Items

- 6.1 John Anson Ford Trust Account and Spending Plan:** Item tabled due to correct spending plan attachments missing.

- 6.2 Commission Committees and Membership:** Mr. Toma briefly reviewed and confirmed the modifications to the committees list since the last commission meeting. The Commission voted unanimously to ratify the following: Commissioner Ellis-Royston was added to the Committee on Policy & Advocacy, Commissioner Gunning was added to the IAOHRA 2020 Conference in LA Committee, while Commissioner Johnson was removed from it.

- 6.3 International Convention to Eliminate Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW):** See item 5.4.

7. Commissioners' Comments/Announcements: No comments or announcements.

- 8. Adjournment:** It was moved by Commissioner Kulkarni and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to adjourn the meeting. Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Guadalupe Montañó
Commission Vice President-Secretary