



Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations

3175 W. Sixth Street, 4th Floor
Los Angeles, California, 90020
<http://www.lahumanrelations.org>

(213) 738-2788

[PROPOSED] MINUTES
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS
Meeting of January 6, 2020
WDACS Teamwork/Ray Bartlett Conference Room

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

- 1. Call to Order/Flag Salute and Moment of Silence:** President Jarrett Barrios called the meeting to order at 12:40 p.m. with a quorum of 9 commissioners in attendance. Commissioner Preeti Kulkarni led the flag salute and a moment of silence was observed.
- 2. Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Porter Gilberg requested that the proposed minutes of the last meeting be amended to reflect the specific use of the words “sex workers” and “sex worker advocacy organizations,” respectively, instead of “sex industry workers” and “sex industry worker advocacy organizations” in the last two sentences under the discussion of a Convention on the Elimination of all Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) recommendation.

It was moved by Kulkarni and seconded by Gilberg to approve the minutes of the Commission meeting of December 2, 2019 as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

- 3. President’s Report:** No report.
- 4. Executive Director’s Report:** Executive Director Robin Toma wished all a happy new year. He shared that, before the 2019-year end, the Board approved a motion by Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas recognizing Human Rights Day, which is celebrated around the world on December 10. He also mentioned that staff member GusTavo Guerra Vasquez will be transferring to the Workforce Branch of WDACS, and he will be sharing the Commission’s appreciation for his many years of service. He noted that Robert Sowell will proceed in leading the Hate Crime Report team until an interim appointment is made. Additionally, Raymond Regalado will lead the John Anson Ford Awards planning this year. Mr. Toma also

reviewed the current branch vacancies, explained what progress has been made and the ongoing challenges in addressing hiring needs with the Human Resources division. Finally, he shared he accepted an invitation to join the Anti-Defamation League's new LA for Good program's steering committee, which will endeavor to address areas of tension and hate in local communities. He reminded all about the County's new upcoming elections format across eleven days in March, and of the significance of this year given the census.

5. Committee Reports

5.1 Ad Hoc Committee on Policing and Human Relations: Committee Chair Isabelle Gunning shared that the Civilian Oversight Commission thanked the HRC for its support of, and participation in, its November conference. Separately, the Policing & Human Relations committee, along with its academic partners involved in the forthcoming policing report, are interested in developing a larger "Restorative County Framework" in the broader context of which the report may fit, along with recommendations on how to conduct healing, trauma-informed work, and bringing communities together among other comprehensive aims. Regarding the upcoming report itself, Gunning summarized the considerations going into finalizing the draft report, those informing the editing of the video component, and timeline for commissioners' feedback before final publication and distribution.

5.2 John Anson Ford (JAF) Awards Event Committee: Committee chair Ilan Davidson was absent. No report.

5.3 Ad Hoc IAOHRA LA 2020 Conference Committee: Committee chair Davidson was absent. No report.

5.4 Ad Hoc Policy and Advocacy Committee: Committee chair Guadalupe Montañó stated there is no report.

6. Action/Discussion Items

6.1 John Anson Ford Trust Fund (Proposed Spending Plan for the Next Two Fiscal Years) Account and Spending Plan: Mr. Toma presented and explained the most current JAF spend down plan spreadsheet, noting that new incoming donations would not fall within the current plan (requirement to spend down in 3 years) but would instead be incorporated into future spend downs. Per an information request, he will also provide the commission the Board's annual budget priorities.

It was moved by Guadalupe Montañó and seconded by Gunning to approve the Spending Plan as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

6.2 Anti-Hate Initiative: The countywide contract with 211 LA, of which our Anti Hate Initiative is now part, has started for 2020. Moreover, a second client coordination position has been added in order to ensure follow up with callers. A few Commissioners are curious to learn if campaign outreach is increasing the amount of reported hate crimes. They wish to learn the total number of reported hate crimes for the most current month, as compared to those reported at this same time last year in 2019.

6.3 Countywide Equity Initiative: Though the branch is currently understaffed, a core coordinating group is working collaboratively with a counterpart Department of Human Resources team to advance the Countywide Equity Initiative, comprising the anticipated launch of the Countywide Equity Framework as well as the 2020 Equity Summit hopefully occurring in late spring. The coordinating group is additionally in the process of finalizing a county contract with the Government Alliance on Race & Equity (GARE),

which will provide technical assistance in the equity advancement efforts. Finally, the group is also working closely with Board offices to secure the initiative's necessary related funding via board motion.

6.4 LACCHR Place in County Government Structure: It is confirmed consultants have been hired to conduct initial analysis of the Aging and Workforce Development branches of WDACS for a possible departmentwide re-organization. Mr. Toma is informed about the consultant for the Aging branch aspect of the analysis, though not the Workforce Development consultant. He assured commissioners that he is in communication with Board offices on this subject and expects the Human Relations commission and branch will indeed be involved in the process. The Ad Hoc Policy & Advocacy committee draft recommendation from the November meeting continues being fine-tuned before it returns to committee and the commission for final adoption. The Board meantime continues awaiting the consultants' reports, after which discussions will follow at the Board office level.

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

8. Adjournment: It was moved by Commissioner Fredrick Sykes and seconded by Commissioner Gunning to adjourn the meeting. Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Guadalupe Montañó
Commission Vice President-Secretary