



## Human Relations Commission Minutes

WEDNESDAY, July 17th, 2024  
In-Person Meeting, 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Location: Council Chambers  
202 C. Street, 12th Floor, SD, CA 92101  
Hybrid: HRC Zoom Link

Commissioners: Olympia Beltran, Rickie Brown, Sara Brown, Faye Detsky-Weil, Yessica Diaz-Roman, Tyler Duncan, MH Fields, Julia Legaspi, April Purcell, Tootie Thomas, Ryan Trabuco, Daneyel Walker, Nicole Murray-Ramirez.

Staff Liaison Executive Director: Dr. Gerald Brown

Item 1: Call to Order:

Chair Thomas

Meeting Overview: The Human Relations Commission of San Diego is Call to Orders by Chair Tootie Thomas. Chair Thomas acknowledge the Kumeyaay people's legacy, approve previous meeting minutes, discuss just cause statements for remote attendance, and make motions for upcoming events and support initiatives, including outreach at the Pride celebration, support for Trans History Month, and addressing various community issues such as fire safety, homelessness, and interfaith relations.

Item 2: Commissioner Roll Call

Chair Thomas

Commissioners in Chambers: Olympia Beltran, Sara Brown, Yessica Diaz-Roman, MH Fields, Tootie Thomas, Ryan Trabuco, Daneyel Walker.

Commissioners with Approved Remote Attendance: Tyler Duncan, April Purcell and Detsky-Weil.

Just cause statements for remote attendance

- Commissioner Detsky-Weil: Family caregiving needs
- Commissioner Purcell: COVID-19
- Vice Chair Duncan: Family caregiving needs
- Motion to approve just cause statements by Commissioner Walker
- Seconded by Commissioner Diaz-Ramon
- Roll call vote: Unanimous approval

Commissioners Absent: Rickie Brown and Nicole Ramirez. (Working on Pride Event).

Commissioner with Excused Absents: Julia Legaspi.

Item 3: Minutes – July 2024

Chair Thomas

Approval of minutes from the April meeting.

- Motion to approve by Commissioner Walker
- Seconded by Commissioner Detsky-Weil
- Roll call vote: Unanimous approval

Item 4: Motions

1. Motion to approve Outreach Table at the upcoming Pride Celebration-Parade on July 20th. The table will be shared with Trans Fronteras.
  - Motion to approve by Commissioner Sara Brown
  - Seconded by Commissioner April Purcell
  - Discussion on security concerns and collaboration with Trans Fronteras
  - Roll call vote: Unanimous approval
2. Motion to provide support for Trans History Month
  - Motion to approve by Commissioner Sara Brown
  - Seconded by Commissioner Beltran
  - Discussion on potential support activities
  - Roll call vote: Unanimous approval

Item 5: Commissioner Reports

All HRC Commissioners

Commissioners share brief priorities of what is going on in their respective communities, and districts, events etc.

- Commissioner Beltran: Peace and Dignity spiritual run in District 8
- Commissioner Fields: Mira Mesa football and cheer pep rally on August 22- with Council member Kent Lee District 6
- Commissioner Walker: Shop the Black SD event at the Mental Bar the upcoming weekend
- Commissioner S. Brown: Jewish holiday of Shavuot celebration on June 11
- Commissioner Diaz-Roman will attend the event to support the Colombian community in San Diego. The Independence of Columbia event at Balboa Park
  - Commissioner Detsky-Weil: Fire Safety Council meeting in the Delmar-Carmel Valley area.
  - A fire occurred two weeks ago, leading to evacuations.
  - Discussion on the Los Angeles to San Diego double tracking and moving the rails off the bluffs.
  - Commissioner R Brown was unable to report on the Harvey Milk Breakfast due to working on Pride. Report will be given next time.

Item 6: Agenda/Non-agenda Public Comment

Exec. Dir. Brown

- Public comment from a citizen regarding support for the unsheltered population. A citizen thanked the commission and the city for their support in finding shelter and employment for the unsheltered population.

Item 7: Commission Discussion.

Chair Thomas

Jewish/Muslim relations in San Diego and our interconnectedness, our roles as HRC Commissioners. Accountability and responsibility and how the Commission move forward with sensitivity.

- The goal is to discuss interconnectedness, recognize each other's pain, and thrive together. One invited speaker could not participate due to an inability to see past his own position.
- Commissioners discussed the importance of hearing diverse voices and building trust. Inclusion of youth in the discussion on Jewish-Muslim relations.
- Suggestion to include youth from both sides to discuss the issue.
- Importance of hearing voices of youth who are passionate about the topic.
- Need to establish rules for constructive dialogue.
  - Can we invite the Youth Commission to participate? Yes. That's doable. The Executive Director will extend the invitation to the youth commission.

Item 8: Standing Committee Report.

Discrimination and Equal protection.

Exec. Dir. Brown

. Ways to lodge a complaint or file a complaint. – Chair Thomas

- People can access making a complaint or filing a complaint through our website, by email, or by calling. We are also on the San Diego Police Department website as a resource.

15. Handling complaints and responses. -

- We are working on the process and procedures for lodging and responding to complaints.
- Creating a living document as a resource list for Executive Director G. Brown to offer help if we can't assist directly.
- Discussing training for commissioners and a potential NDA for commissioners to protect against retaliation.

Item 9: Executive Director Report

Exec. Dir. Brown

A. Appointments/Resignations

Appointments and resignations.

- We need 17 people assigned and currently have 5 vacant seats.
- Applications are being processed, but we can't move faster than City Council.
- Mayoral appointments also need to be approved by the council.

Why do we wait to group them for city council?

- Grouping is based on the council's docket and timing, usually around May-June.
- Should we advise the mayor and city council on nominations? – Yes.

- B. Code of Conduct – Update – In Rules
  - The larger code of conduct for the office of board and commissions is still pending.
- C. District meeting visits ideas and Council District office partnership
  - Discussed the importance of meeting with council members and community engagement.
  - 1. Guide to engagement/City Council Focus
    - Economic development, affordable housing, equal treatment by law enforcement, and other issues are important. The commission should continually advise the mayor and city council on these issues.
  - 2. Law Enforcement – Meeting with SDPD Chief Wahl
    - Meeting went well, Chief Wahl would be willing to meet with the Commission

Item 10: Subcommittee Report

Vice Chair Duncan

- a. Updates on San Diego United Against Hate – Proclamation for SDUAH (VOTE Required)
- b. Community Engagement Event/Recognition Form Commissioner Yessica Diaz Roman

Item 11: Chairs Report

Chair Thomas

- a. Safety Summit Report
  - Every police chief from every county or part a different part of San Diego was there the FBI was there they had probation was there the sheriff department was present at the meeting. The police chiefs really like to extend their support. The safety summit hosted by members of the community, and it was very well attended. There were over 50 people there in attendance. Commissioner Ramirez as well as Commissioner Brown showed up.
- b. SAR Report
  - SAR report stands for Suspicious Activity Report is something that may work when we're getting discrimination an equal protection complaint. It could be one of the pathways to getting complainant some help and making sure that the rest of the public is safe. A SAR assists that person to have somebody to reach out to. The Suspicious Activity Report goes to every agency and so everybody sees it and that person will show up on the radar somewhere there may be ties or intersections. The second one is some people from the gay community asked if law-enforcement would be willing to show up to a meet and greet sort of thing not in uniform and without their guns so that they would feel a little bit more comfortable.
- b. Host-Law Enforcement
  - This is an opportunity for the Human Relations Commission to host something like this at one of the clubs or an even better idea is there's always volleyball in the park right off of sixth Avenue every Sunday but maybe hosting up a volleyball game there with those regular volleyball people and police officers and there could be a little bit more interaction so I will start to if you guys like that idea I'll start to work on that and we can put it on the agenda for August. Then vote on see if we can get it done, get a journey commission we are thank you thank you everybody.

Motion to Adjourn

Next Meeting of the HRC August 21, 2024

Action Items

[ ] Outreach table at the Pride celebration on July 20th and 21st, shared with TransFronteras, including distribution of informational materials and engagement activities. -- [Commissioner Brown] [Commissioner Purcell] [Commissioner Walker] [Commissioner Beltran] [Commissioner Diaz-Roman] [Commissioner Fields] July 20th and 21st

[ ] Support for Trans History Month in September, including potential participation in press conferences and events. -- [Commissioner Brown] [Commissioner Walker] [Commissioner Beltran] [Commissioner Diaz-Ramon] [Commissioner Fields] September

[ ] Peace and Dignity spiritual run in District 8, providing medic first aid support and participating in ceremonies. -- [Commissioner Beltran]

[ ] Mira Mesa football and cheer pep rally, supporting community engagement and anti-racism efforts. -- [Commissioner Fields] [Councilperson Kent Lee] August 22

[ ] Shop the Black SD event at the Mental Bar, promoting small businesses and community engagement. -- [Commissioner Walker] This weekend

[ ] Invite the citizen who commented on support for the unsheltered population to a future meeting. -- [Commission]

[ ] Revisit the discussion on Jewish-Muslim relations with invited speakers. -- [Commission]

[ ] Organize a youth group discussion on Jewish-Muslim relations and other issues. -- [Commission]

[ ] Establish an Ad Hoc Committee to address the issue of Jewish-Muslim relations. -- [Exec XCOM ]

Extend the invitation to the Youth Commission. [Ex Dir Brown]

[ ] Talk with Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Fields, and Commissioner Beltran about involving the Youth Commission.

[ ] Create a living document as a resource list for handling complaints. [Ex Dir Brown]

[ ] Look into training for commissioners. [Ex Dir Brown]

[ ] Submit applications for vacant seats on the commission. [Commissioners]

[ ] Start the letter idea process to advise the mayor and city council on nominations. – [Chair Thomas, Vice Chair Duncan and Ex Dir. Brown]

[ ] Provide a template for official communications. – [Ex Dir. Brown/Director Warren-Darby]

[ ] Meet with council members and discuss community engagement. [Chair Thomas, Chair of Community Engagement Comte., and the Exe. Dir. Brown, the representative from the respected district]

[ ] Advise the mayor and city council on economic development, affordable housing, and equal treatment by law enforcement. [HRC Commission]

[ ] Meet with law enforcement and discuss community issues. - [Commissioner Detsky-Weil]

[ ] Invite Council President Rivera's council policy representative to address the commission every three months [Ex Dir. Brown]

