



**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
Minutes**

DATE: Wednesday, September 6, 2017
TIME: 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
PLACE: North Terrace Conference Room, City Concourse Building
202 C Street, San Diego Ca, 92101

MEETING: Number 306

Call to Order/Welcome: Chair, Stephen Groce 5:30 p.m. (started with Quorum)

COMMISSIONERS IN ATTENDANCE

Stephen Groce, Chair	Godwin Higa
Dion Brown, Vice Chair	Lillian Shallow
Monica Bauer	Gagandeep Kaur
Dolores Canizales	Tinesia Conwright
Faye Detsky-Weil	Jessica Nare

EXCUSED COMMISSIONERS

Shana Hazan	Nicole Murray-Ramirez
Patrick Hovakimian	Joel Trambley

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Joel Day, Executive Director
Sonja Mack, Executive Assistant

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion made by Vice Chair Brown to approve August 16, 2017 HRC meeting minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Nare. The minutes approved unanimously.

Non-agenda Public Comment: None

Public Official Comment:

1. A Representative from Councilmember Georgette Gomez's Office, District 9 – The City of San Diego.

- a. Requesting support from the Commission on the proposed resolution made by Councilmember Gomez to oppose the Presidential executive order regarding funding for the border wall.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Action regarding Councilmember Gomez's resolution opposing the President's Executive Order 13767 and House of Representative Bill 1813 (HR 1813) – The Border Wall Funding Act of 2017.
 - a. Council member Gomez will present this to the City Council on Tuesday, September 19th, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. at the City Administration Building located at 202 C Street, 12th Floor, San Diego, CA 92101.
 - b. Executive Director Joel Day recommended that the Commission empowers the HRC Chair to draft a two minute statement to be read during public testimony. HRC agreed with suggestion.

Motion made by Commissioner Dolores Canizales that the Human Relations Commission supports the resolution by Councilmember Gomez. Seconded by Commissioner Godwin Higa. Motion passed unanimously. Vote 11-0-0.

2. Action on letter responding to Charlottesville and incidents of hate.
 - a. Commissioner Shallow stated that a few updates were made to the letter that is being forwarded to the Mayor in regards to supporting the initiative. The revised letter included statistics from the California Department of Justice where it claimed an 11% increase of hate crimes within San Diego County The goal is for the Mayor to join the already 270 additional signatories nationwide in order to stand against hate crimes.

A Motion was made by Vice Chair Dion Brown to approve the letter drafted to the Mayor. Seconded by Commissioner Faye Detsky-Weil. Commissioner Monica Bauer suggested that the motion be approved with suggested edits to the letter. Motion passed unanimously. Vote 11-0-0.

SPEAKERS & INFORMATION AGENDA

1. Rabbi David Singer, Executive Director, UC San Diego Hillel / Acting Executive Director, Hillel of San Diego
Topic: City Council Action on Building UCSD Hillel
 - a. Rabbi Singer briefed the HRC on Hillel University stating it is part of an international network, with a goal of bringing students together and helping young people to make crucial decisions that will impact them throughout their lives. Their desire is to build a Hillel building across the street from UC San Diego to enable them to expand their work and ground it in a physical location. On Monday, October 2nd, 2017 they will ask City Council for re-approval to move forward with constructing the Hillel building that was once given to them in 2006. Rabbi Singer welcomes the HRC members as private citizen to learn more about the Hillel and its building project.
2. Selection Process for the Next San Diego Police Chief

- a. Executive Director Joel Day discussed the SDPD Chief Selection Process. There will be a private agency that will be chosen to execute the recruitment process with transparency. There will be several meetings and each will be open for public input; for additional information regarding when the meetings will be held and process in general, please reference following City of San Diego's website www.sandiego.gov/nextchief.
3. Concerns on Spreckles Organ Society Movie Night Film Selections – Information provided by Commissioner Jessica Nare.
 - a. Balboa Park has a free silent movie screening open to the public. Commissioner Nare expressed concern to the organization's Officers and Trustees, and questioned the current selection process for the movies being viewed during movie nights at Balboa Park. She stated a recent film that she viewed at the site titled, "Seven Chances" that showed film characters in black face, in which she found offensive. Commissioner Nare suggested to invite the Spreckles Organ Society to an HRC meeting to discuss and gain clarity with regards to their movie selection and feedback process.
 - b. Executive Director Joel Day met with the Executive Director of the Arts and Culture Commission regarding this matter of concern, and it was explained that the Arts and Culture Commission provides funding for public art projects, however, due to First Amendment rights, they do not regulate the content of the projects that they fund.

No action is required by the Commission to move forward with addressing this concern to Spreckles Organ Society. It was suggested that Commissioner Nare initiate a follow up email to the organization.

4. Update on the Re-Organization of Boards and Commissions
 - a. Executive Director Joel Day will meet with City Attorney's office on Monday September 11, 2017 to discuss the recommendations made by the Mayor Office to restructure Boards and Commissions some of which includes the HRC and other inactive commissions such as the Commission on Women, the Commission on Aging Seniors, and the Commission on Youth. The structure of the re-org was presented in July to Council Rules Subcommittee.
 - b. The Executive Director stated that the language he has suggested is broadly written to include other matters of social policy including interfaith concerns, LGBT issues, or other topics the HRC deems as appropriate.
 - c. The Mayor's Office goal is to streamline to all boards and Commission to have similar municipal structure and where they vary is in their bylaws. This is in line with Audit recommendations of all boards and commissions.
5. Other Cities Establishments of HRC's

- a. HRC Chair Groce stated the City of Chula Vista has expressed an interest in establishing a Human Relations Commission and would like the HRC to assist them with accomplishing it, which will mean putting together an Ad-Hoc Committee to take on the responsibility.
- b. Commissioner Canizales suggested reaching out to the California Human Relations Organization (CHRO) Group for the next steps

6. Meeting Locations

- a. Per Vice Chair Brown, it has been proposed to move the HRC meeting location from the downtown area.

HRC discussed the new location proposal and by a majority vote: 6-4-1. The primary location for future HRC Meetings will be held at the Balboa Park–Santa Fe Conference Room, and the secondary location for HRC meetings to be held at the City Administration Building or mutually agreed upon public space.

Subcommittee Reports

1. Refugee and Immigrant Rights – None
2. Access to Basic Needs Number of nominations
 - a. Commissioner Canizales, reported meeting in November regarding nominations to be discussed during meeting in September. Any ideas about theme, catering or sponsorship for refreshments at events, please contact Commissioner Canizales, Executive Director Joel Day, or Vice Chair Dion Brown.
 - b. Per Executive Director Joel Day, the nomination form has been streamlined as it has been suggested to do all awards at the one time. The nomination process has been streamlined on the HRC website there is now a fillable form available to select which award(s) you are nominating someone for, he will send out a link for Commissioners to forward to their community contacts.
 - c. HRC Chair Groce suggested to extend invites to the Mayor's office and Councilmembers to enable them to nominate from their District to give a larger pool of applicants and attendees.
3. Civil Rights and Equal Protection– Report was already given
 - a. Commissioner Higa reported about the letter that was sent to the Mayor about dual bathrooms from a transgender person and stated that one day he walked into a KFC and saw multi-gender restrooms and was pleased
4. Ad Hoc Committee on Annual Ceremony– Commissioner Brown raised 500 dollars from UCSD for the event but still urges other to look for other sponsorships in order to raise more money. Kipp Adelante Charter School will be providing a live student orchestra ranging from about 68 students. Changing the time to any earlier time was being discussed to give time for those who work that day a chance to make it on time.

Chair's Report:**Executive Director's Report**

1. Report was deferred by Executive Director Joel

Commissioner Announcements

Several commissioners will be attending police forums (see above for information).

Commissioner Detsky-Weil and HRC Chair met with Barbra Bry on Thursday, August 31, 2017 to discuss her vision for the HRC and how the Commission can better serve the City of San Diego and District-1.

SD County District Attorney's Office had a summit on human trafficking in San Diego, Thursday, August 31st, 2017.

ADJOURN: 7:06 p.m.