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CULVER CITY EQUITY AND HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CULVER CITY EQUITY AND  
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

July 27, 2021  
7:00 P.M.

**Call To Order & Roll Call**

Chair Rona called the regular meeting of the Culver City Equity and Human Relations Advisory Committee to order at 7:00 P.M. via WebEx.

**Members Present:** Rebecca Rona, Chair  
Carlos Valverde, Vice Chair  
Samia Bano, Member  
Michelle Dennis, Member  
Anissa Di Vincente, Member  
London McBride, Member  
Lizbeth Mendez, Member  
Haifaa Moammar, Member  
Jared Morgan, Member\*

\*Member Morgan joined the meeting at 8:10 P.M.

**Staff Present:** Walter Castillo, Human Resources and Equity Manager  
Serena Wright-Black, Assistant City Manager  
Lisa Vidra, Senior Deputy City Attorney  
Stephanie Condran, Human Resources Analyst

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**Pledge of Allegiance**

Member Mendez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**Public Comment - Items NOT On the Agenda**

Chair Rona discussed procedures for making public comment.

The following member of the public addressed the Committee:

Suzanne Debeneditis thanked Chair Rona and Committee Members for their service and she asked the Committee to request permission from the City to host a workshop on sensitivity training.

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**Items from Committee Members**

Chair Rona welcomed new Member Lisbeth Mendez to the Committee and she welcomed Walter Castillo on his first official meeting.

Vice Chair Valverde welcomed Member Mendez; announced the World Peace Music Festival in Leimert Park on August 14-15; he discussed other Los Angeles cultural events available on EventBrite; and the Nisei Week Japanese Festival in Little Tokyo from August 14-22.

Member Bano encouraged everyone to attend a Race Relay Dialogue organized by Common Peace and she indicated that she would investigate the possibility of collaboration.

Chair Rona encouraged everyone to subscribe to receive City updates on the work of the Committee.

Member Dennis announced the election of the first non-binary Mayor in the world; discussed the report by the Williams Research Institute for LGBTQAI+ Matters; the number of non-binary people in the United States; and the first transgender person to be nominated for an Emmy Award.

Members Di Vincente and McBride welcomed Member Mendez to the Committee.

Member Mendez was excited to work with everyone on the Committee.

Member Moammar welcomed Member Mendez to the Committee and she thanked Cicely Bingener for her work noting that she would be sending her recognition.

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**Receipt of Correspondence**

Stephanie Condran, Human Resources Analyst, reported that written e-comment had been distributed to Committee Members.

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**Consent Calendar Items**

Item C-1

**Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting of June 22, 2021**

Chair Rona discussed the process for considering the minutes noting the ability of Committee Members to view the video for each meeting.

Lisa Vidra, Senior Deputy City Attorney, indicated that she was present at the meeting of June 22, 2021, not Heather Baker as was noted, and she requested that correction be made to the minutes.

MOVED BY MEMBER DI VINCENTE AND SECONDED BY MEMBER BANO THAT THE EQUITY AND HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 22, 2021 AS CORRECTED.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BANO, DENNIS, DI VINCENTE, RONA, VALVERDE  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: MORGAN  
ABSTAIN: MCBRIDE, MENDEZ, MOAMMAR

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**Order of the Agenda**

Public Comment for Items NOT on the Agenda was heard after the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**Action Items**

Item A-1

**(1) Selection of the Equity and Human Relations Advisory Committee Chair and Vice Chair for Fiscal Year 2021-2022**

Chair Rona introduced the item

Stephanie Condran, Human Resources Analyst, discussed procedures.

Walter Castillo, Human Resources and Equity Manager, discussed building leadership skills and the opportunity of leading the Committee.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding nominations; the first year of the Committee spent on organization; maintaining momentum; events and important things to address; continuity; and appreciation for the work of the Chair and the Vice Chair over the past year.

MOVED BY MEMBER DENNIS AND SECONDED BY MEMBER MCBRIDE THAT THE EQUITY AND HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINT REBECCA RONA TO SERVE AS CHAIR AND CARLOS VALVERDE TO SERVE AS VICE CHAIR FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BANO, DENNIS, DI VINCENTE, MCBRIDE, MENDEZ,  
MOAMMAR, RONA, VALVERDE  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: MORGAN

Chair Rona thanked the Committee for the vote of confidence.

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Item A-2

**(1) Discuss the Potential Creation of an Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Create Educational Materials for Members of the Public; (2) (If Desired) Form an Ad Hoc Educational Materials Subcommittee; and (3) Appoint Committee Members Thereto; and (4) Provide Direction to Staff if Deemed Appropriate**

Chair Rona introduced the item.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the benefits of having materials to utilize for public events; the timeline; and the bylaws and the workplan as sources for determining which publications to create.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR VALVERDE AND SECONDED BY MEMBER BANO THAT THE EQUITY AND HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ESTABLISH THE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BANO, DENNIS, DI VINCENTE, MCBRIDE, MENDEZ,  
MOAMMAR, RONA, VALVERDE  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: MORGAN

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding Members interested in serving.

MOVED BY MEMBER BANO AND SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR VALVERDE THAT THE EQUITY AND HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINT MEMBERS BANO, MCBRIDE AND MENDEZ TO SERVE ON THE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BANO, DENNIS, DI VINCENTE, MCBRIDE, MENDEZ,  
MOAMMAR, RONA, VALVERDE  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: MORGAN

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Item A-3

**(1) Consideration of the Expansion of the Historical Monuments Ad Hoc Subcommittee by Adding Additional Members; (2) (If Desired) Appoint Additional Members Thereto; and (3) Provide Direction to Staff if Deemed Appropriate**

Chair Rona introduced the item.

Vice Chair Valverde discussed work of the Historical Monuments Ad Hoc Subcommittee so far; the need for more historical stories; and expanding the focus to include monuments or symbols that convey positive ideas.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR VALVERDE AND SECONDED BY MEMBER MOAMMAR THAT THE EQUITY AND HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE EXPAND THE HISTORICAL MARKERS AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE TO ADD CHAIR RONA AND MEMBER MOAMMAR AS MEMBERS.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BANO, DENNIS, DI VINCENTE, MCBRIDE, MENDEZ,  
MOAMMAR, RONA, VALVERDE  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: MORGAN

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding encouragement to get started meeting quickly; a suggestion that subcommittee representatives attend a Cultural Affairs Commission meeting to learn about their role in Historic Preservation and Public Art and how the subcommittee might work together with the Commission; procedures to agendaize an item; and Chair Rona indicated that she was the liaison to the Cultural Affairs Commission.

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Item A-4

**(1) Receive Report from the Indigenous Peoples Day Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Event Proposals; (2) Discuss Report Proposals and Determine Next Steps on Implementing the Event; and (3) Provide Direction to Staff if Deemed Appropriate**

Chair Rona discussed terms and concepts behind the event; biases with the way history is written; cultural humility; the importance of respecting all beliefs and cultures; the virtual event planned for October 12; planned activities and speakers; praying vs. showing gratitude; incorporating a land acknowledgement into the event; and stewardship of the earth.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the Tongva Village historic site near the Kenneth Hahn Steps; collaboration with the Tongva; involvement of the schools; recognition of the Tongva and the Gabrielinos; student art; and facilitation of student learning from the Gabrielinos.

MOVED BY MEMBER DENNIS AND SECONDED BY MEMBER BANO THAT THE EQUITY AND HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY EVENT AS PROPOSED BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BANO, DENNIS, DI VINCENTE, MCBRIDE, MENDEZ,  
MOAMMAR, RONA, VALVERDE  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: MORGAN

Chair Rona indicated the desire to add another member to the Subcommittee.

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#### **Public Comment - Items NOT On the Agenda**

Chair Rona invited public comment.

Stephanie Condran, Human Resources Analyst, reported that no public comment had been received.

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#### **Items from Equity and Human Relations Advisory Committee Members**

Chair Rona proposed that a special meeting be held on August 24 to address the following items: strengthening the ad hoc subcommittees by adding more volunteers, consideration of talking points for Committee Members being drafted by Member Di Vincente, and allowing for a report from the Outreach and Communications Subcommittee.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee members regarding creation of a subcommittee for the Transgender Day Remembrance event in November; creation of a Civil Discourse Event Subcommittee; addressing serious concerns in the community; contentious debate about different kinds of land uses; ongoing issues of allocation of police resources; and creation of Civil Discourse Guidelines for the community.

Chair Rona moved to hold a special meeting in August and Member Dennis seconded the motion.

Further discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the regular meeting in August; the agendaized discussion to consider virtual or in-person meetings; subcommittees that require additional volunteers; and clarification that the Transgender Day of Remembrance Ad Hoc Subcommittee and the Ad Hoc Subcommittee for the Civil Discourse Event had already been formed.

Member Morgan joined the meeting at 8:10 P.M.

MOVED BY MEMBER DENNIS, SECONDED BY VICE CHAIR VALVERDE AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE EQUITY AND HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDIZE A DISCUSSION OF ADDING MEMBERS TO EXISTING AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEES.

MOVED BY MEMBER DI VINCENTE, SECONDED BY MEMBER BANO AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE EQUITY AND HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDIZE A BRIEF PRESENTATION BY THE COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE OF TALKING POINTS FOR USE PUBLICLY WHEN SOLICITING NOMINATIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS AWARD.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR VALVERDE, SECONDED BY MEMBER BANO AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE EQUITY AND HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDIZE A REPORT FROM THE OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE REGARDING THE WEBPAGE AND THE WEBSITE IN RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF.

Additional discussion ensued between Committee Members regarding event dates that had not been adopted as part of the calendar including the Listen and Learn, Civil Discourse, and Movie Screening events; the intent to discuss the events with staff; and agendaizing a report from the Public Events Ad Hoc Subcommittee for the purpose of finalizing the public events calendar for 2021-2022.

MOVED BY CHAIR RONA, SECONDED BY MEMBER DI VINCENTE AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE EQUITY AND HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDIZE A REPORT FROM THE PUBLIC EVENTS AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE TO FINALIZE THE PUBLIC EVENTS CALENDAR FOR 2021-2022.

Further discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the need to finalize dates with staff soon; allowing more time for a report from the Educational Materials Ad Hoc Subcommittee; participating subcommittee members and

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agreement to meet before the next Committee meeting; and the ability for subcommittees to make reports during items from Committee Members.

Member Moammar commended athletes for their efforts during the Olympics.

Member Dennis discussed organizations that keep track of the number of transgender and gender non-binary people murdered each year and the event planned for November 20, 2021.

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**Items from Staff**

None.

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**Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 8:29 P.M., the Equity and Human Relations Advisory Committee adjourned to Tuesday, August 24, 2021.

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Walter Castillo  
SECRETARY of the Culver City Equity and Human Relations  
Advisory Committee  
Culver City, California

APPROVED

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Rebecca Rona  
CHAIR of the Culver City Equity and Human Relations  
Advisory Committee  
Culver City, California

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that, on the date below written, these minutes were filed in the Office of the City Clerk, Culver City, California and constitute the Official Minutes of said meeting.

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Jeremy Green  
CITY CLERK

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Date