

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

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AGENDA

**Monday
September 13, 2021**



**5:30 p.m.
Regular Meeting**

Mission Statement

Palm Springs is an inclusive world-class city dedicated to providing excellent and responsive public services to enhance the quality of life for current and future generations.

Pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20, this meeting will be conducted by teleconference and there will be no in-person public access to the meeting location.

- To view/listen/participate in the meeting live, please use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84998085073?pwd=cUtyS3R2Tk0rUFdUa1FjWUxxSU1rdz09>

or call (669) 900-6833 **Zoom Meeting ID 849 9808 5073, Passcode: 991739**

- Written public comment may also be submitted to cityclerk@palmspringsca.gov. Transmittal prior to the meeting is required. Any correspondence received during or after the meeting will be distributed to the Board/Commission as soon as practicable and retained for the official record.
- The meeting will be recorded and the audio file will be available from the Office of the City Clerk and will be posted on the City's YouTube channel, as soon as practicable.

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- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Ron deHarte
 - 2. ROLL CALL:** Board Members: Hugo Loyola, David Vignolo, Oliver Cleary, Kalina Robles, Terrie Andrade, Glenn Flood, Edwin Ramoran, Vice Chair Donna Shepherd, and Chair Ron deHarte

Student Representative Ella Cash and Lilly Hanner
 - 3. MISSION STATEMENT & GOALS:**
"The Mission of the Palm Springs Human Rights Commission is to promote and protect the diversity of our community and to improve human relations through education and community awareness."

Human Rights Commission Goals:

- *To develop community education programs;*
- *To investigate and mediate instances of discrimination of groups or individuals;*
- *To bring persons and groups together in common support of human rights issues;*
- *To acquire the fiscal and human resources necessary to support and accomplish the work of the Commission;*
- *To provide management and coordination for the Commission;*
- *To promote diversity through the appointment of candidates to all city boards and commissions to proportionately reflect the diversity of the population of the City of Palm Springs;*
- *The Commission and each Committee shall develop goals and objectives annually, for adoption by the commission;*
- *The Commission shall work closely with the Mayor, City Council, and City Cabinet and with all other City Commissions and Boards in joint endeavors that support the Commission's mission statement and City's goals and objectives.*

4. QUORUM:

- 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** This time has been set aside for members of the public to address the Human Rights Commission on agenda items; and items of general interest within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. Three (3) minutes is allowed for each speaker. Although the Commission values your comments, pursuant to the Brown Act, it generally cannot take any action on items not listed on the posted agenda. Commissioners will not enter into discussion with speakers, but during Commission Comments, may refer the matter to staff for report and recommendation at a future Commission meeting.

6. CHAIR COMMENTS:

- A. Recognition of Service
- B. Standing Committee Meeting Notice Requirement

7. RECOGNITION:

- A. Hispanic Heritage Month – Celebrated September 15 to October 15
- B. International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: July 12, 2021**9. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:**

- A. Reports

Executive Report (Chair deHarte, Vice Chair Shepherd, Loyola)

Community Relations Committee/Budget/Personnel Committee

- a. PSPD LGBT Outreach Committee (deHarte)
- b. Master Calendar (Ramoran)
- c. Main Street (deHarte)
- d. Finance (Vignolo)
- e. Organized Neighborhoods of Palm Springs (Vignolo)

Cultural Affairs Committee

- a. Desert Highland Gateway Estates Community Association (Andrade, Flood, Shepherd)

Seniors/People with Disabilities Veterans Affairs Committee

- a. Veterans issues (Flood, Vignolo)

Youth/Education Affairs Committee

- a. Student Representatives (Shepherd, Cash, Hanner)

Commission Development/Mediation Committee

- a. Mediation (Andrade, Vignolo)
- b. Retreat (Shepherd, deHarte)

B. Committee Assignments

- a. Clean Indoor Air and Health Protection Draft Ordinance with Sustainability Commission Update (Ramoran)
- b. Street naming update (Ramoran, Shepherd)

C. Consideration of Submitting Priorities/Areas of Focus for the City Council Visioning Session

D. Commissioner, Staff, and Student Comments

E. Topical Newsworthy Items

10. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT HRC MEETING:

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

12. ADJOURNMENT: The Commission will adjourn to special joint meeting with the Palm Springs City Council on Wednesday, September 29, 2021.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Pursuant to G.C. Section 54957.5(b)(2) the designated office for inspection of records in connection with the meeting is the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way.

It is the intention of the City of Palm Springs to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in all respects. If, as an attendee or a participant at this meeting, or in meetings on a regular basis, you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, the City will attempt to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please contact the Office of the City Clerk, (760) 323-8204, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to inform us of your particular needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible.

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

I, Jay Virata, Director of Community & Economic Development, of the City of Palm Springs, California, hereby certify this Agenda was posted at City Hall before 6:00 p.m., September 9, 2021, and posted on the City's website as required by established policies and procedures.

/S/ Jay Virata _____

Jay Virata

Community & Economic Development

Human Rights Commission
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA



FOR APPROVAL

MINUTES
Regular Meeting

Monday, July 12, 2021
Virtual Zoom Meeting

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair deHarte called the meeting was called to order at 5:31PM by Chair deHarte.
2. **ROLL CALL:**
Present: Commissioners Andrade, Flood, Loyola, Ramoran, Robles, Shepherd, deHarte, Student Representative Cash
Absent: Student Representative Hanner and Cleary
Also present: City Manager Justin Clifton, Jay Virata, Community and Economic Development Director
3. **MISSION STATEMENT & GOALS:** The mission statement was read out loud among the Commission.
4. **QUORUM:** YES.
5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**
 - Mr. O’Conner – Spoke about homelessness ; asked what the City Council and the Commission are doing around the issue; would like to help be involved to solving the problems the community is facing.
 - Rene Brown – Commented on the limited parking spaces in the underground parking facility for Downtown workers; feels this is a form discrimination against the working class.
6. **CHAIR COMMENTS:**
 - Chair deHarte announced Vice Chair Chappell’s term ended in June after serving six years on the Commission; she will be missed.
7. **RECOGNITION**
 - A. World Day Against Trafficking in Persons
 - Gustavo Araiza, Palm Springs Police Department gave a presentation on law enforcements role with identifying and investigating allegations of human trafficking. Law enforcement works very closely with the Riverside County Anti-Human Trafficking Taskforce.
8. **APPROVAL OF MINTUES: JUNE 14, 2021**
MOTION BY: COMMISSIONER FLOOD, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER ANDRADE TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
9. **UPDATE FROM CITY COUNCIL REGARDING HOMELESSNESS – JAY VIRATA, DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
 - Chair deHarte announced this item is being tabled for a future meeting at an unknown date.
10. **UPDATE ON THE SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE – JUSTIN CLIFTON, CITY MANAGER**

- City Manager Clifton reported the City Council made formal appointments to the new Equity and Social Justice Committee. The eight members were identified and included two Human Rights Commissioners Ramoran and Shepherd. They are looking forward to hiring a trained facilitator with specialized expertise in the area of equity and social justice including strategic planning, group discussion, facilitation and decision making. The Committee was established to be a 9-month condensed expeditious and efficient team that will generate a list of topics/interests and advance recommendations to City Council. They are targeting to schedule the first meeting by September. He welcomed any suggestions of qualified facilitator as they are in the recruitment process. City Manager Clifton responded to Commissioner comments and inquiries.
- City Manager Clifton additionally reported City Council is now targeting a September date to discuss the Bogert Statue and Section 14 apology. They are close to identifying a date and will follow-up soon.

11. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

A. Committees – Chair deHarte and Vice Chair Chappell

- Chair deHarte opened the floor for committee updates.

Executive Committee (deHarte, Chappell)

- Chair deHarte encouraged new Commissioners to review the Standing Committees; the Executive Committee's rotating Commissioner position is now open; Commissioner Loyola volunteered to serve for the next quarter (July-September).
- Chair deHarte commented on the City's Human Rights Municipality Index rating. The Human Rights Commission has not been involved since the City started submitting the survey. Preliminary questioning was made to the City Manager, it is something that comes out of City Managers Guidance from Human Resources within City Hall. The Commission will request to the City Manager when the survey comes up again, that they be invited to participate.

Community Relations Committee/Budget/Personnel Committee

- a. PSPD LGBT Outreach Committee (deHarte) – No report.
- b. Master Calendar (Ramoran) – No report.
- c. Main Street (deHarte) No Report.
- d. Finance (deHarte, Chappell) No Report.
- e. Organized Neighborhoods of Palm Springs – No Report.

Cultural Affairs Committee

- a. Community Service Awards (deHarte, Flood, Shepherd) No Report.
- b. Desert Highland Gateway Estates Community Association (Andrade, Flood, Shepherd)
 - Commissioner Flood attended the association picnic on Saturday, June 19 at James O. Jessie Park; it was well attended.
 - Commissioner Shepherd requested a phone call be scheduled with Chair deHarte to talk about their involvement with the Association.
 - Chair deHarte requested Director Virata email an updated Commission Roster to the full Commission.

Seniors/People with Disabilities Veterans Affairs Committee

- a. Veterans issues (Flood) No Report.

Youth/Education Affairs Committee

- a. Student Representatives (Chappell, Cash)
 - Student Representative Cash reported her efforts to increase student representative interest to serve on the Commission. Intends to reach out to Janel Hunt, Assistant Principal for help recruiting students.
 - The Commission discussed ways to help increase student recruitment.

Commission Development/Mediation Committee

- a. Mediation (Andrade) – No Report.
- b. Retreat (Chappell, deHarte) – No Report.

B. Committee Assignments

- a. Clean Indoor Air and Health Protection Draft Ordinance with Sustainability Commission Update
- Commissioner Ramoran reported on July 20, 2021 the Sustainability Commission will be addressing the approved draft ordinance the Commission forwarded.
- b. Street naming update
- Commissioner Ramoran and Commissioner Shepherd will be scheduling meetings to address street naming after August 12th; they welcome any recommendations.
 - Chair deHarte clarified this item is a request from City Council.
 - Chair deHarte recommended the Committee set a meeting with Assistant Planner Director David Newell to get some guidance.

C. General Plan Vision and Priorities Update

- Director Virata reported there is no information available yet regarding the Commission's comments, any impact on the new draft General Plan, particularly because it is not yet complete. A general plan workshop was identified tomorrow for anyone who is interested in participating. The workshop registration information, flyer and draft housing element was provided to the Commission.
- Commissioner Ramoran commented on attending a workshop on June 17, 2021 at Demuth Community Center. He was concerned about the low attendance. Feels the City needs to do more outreach in the smaller communities.
- Chair deHarte in response to Commissioner Ramoran's comments indicated that they could certainly help give guidance in this particular case to the Planning Department and helping them with outreach. Had the Planning Department reached out and invited the Commission to work with them they would have been able to appoint Commissioner Ramoran early on who has the outreach expertise they might not have to really help them organize their outreach efforts. The comments shared today will help them identify what those next steps should be for their work in the community.

D. 2021-2022 Chair and Vice Chair Selection Update

- Chair deHarte and Director Virata discussed the annual Chair and Vice Chair selection process. The floor was opened for nominations/interest to serve as Vice Chair and/or Chair.
- Commissioner Shepherd self-nominated for Vice Chair; Commissioner Ramoran second the nomination; Commissioner Shepherd accepted the nomination.
- Commissioner Shepherd nominated Ron DeHarte for Chair; Commissioner Ramoran second the nomination. Chair deHarte accepted the nomination.
- **CHAIR DEHARTE CALLED A VOTE BY A SHOW OF HANDS IN FAVOR OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR SLATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2021-22. VOTE CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

E. COMMISSIONER, STAFF AND STUDENT COMMENTS:

- Commissioner Andrade offered the Commission's assistance to both Mayor and Director Virata regarding a role around homelessness; Director Virata confirmed Commissioner Andrade is on the email distribution list regarding homeless
- Commissioner Ramoran thanked Chair deHarte and Vice Chair Shepherd; welcomed the new Commissioners and commented on the Marilyn Monroe statue and advertisements from PS Resorts; would like the Commission to look at the history of misogyny.
- Commissioner Vignolo welcomed the new Commissioners; and inquired about committee assignments.
- Commissioner Vignolo would like to see the Commission recognize Hispanic Heritage Month
- Chair deHarte requested the new Commissioners give a brief introduction/background.

F. Topical Newsworthy Items – None.

12. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT HRC MEETING: The following items were proposed for the next Agenda item.

1. Hispanic Heritage Month Recognition

- Student Representative Cash received confirmation she is likely to continue to serve as student representative for another annual term if she desires. Vice Chair Shepherd will coordinate.
- Commissioner Vignolo inquired on the Commissions participation at community outreach/education events. Will be joining Commissioner Ramoran and Student Representative Hanner on the Master Calendar Committee.
- Chair deHarte, stated new Commissioner Orientation has not been scheduled yet; will work with Director Virata on scheduling a date.
- Chair deHarte and Director Virata reported they are awaiting guidance from City Council on when in-person meetings will resume. Currently Commission business is only conducted via Zoom, in accordance Brown Act Regulations.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS: NONE.

14. ADJOURNMENT: The Commission adjourned at 6:55PM to an adjourned regular meeting on Monday, September 13, 2021 at 5:30P.M. via teleconference.

Respectfully submitted,

Annie Rodriguez
Housing Program Assistant

Proclamation

Hispanic Heritage Month
September 15th - October 15th, 2021

WHEREAS, National Hispanic Heritage¹ Month is an opportunity to celebrate the rich cultural traditions and honor the heritage, contributions and significant achievements of people with roots from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, Central and South America including indigenous, Brazilian and other non-Spanish speaking people; and

WHEREAS, the City of Palm Springs recognizes the unique diversity, and rich histories of the Palm Springs' Hispanic and Latino² culture. We acknowledge the countless contributions that Hispanic Americans make every day to our culture and to our city; and

WHEREAS, The day of September 15th is significant because it is the anniversary of the 1821 declaration of independence from Spain for five Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16th and September 18th, respectively; and

WHEREAS, By the 1920s, in Palm Springs, the original Mexican American pioneer families came to work in agriculture, the railroad and construction. Their arrival was the beginning of a new life in a new country and they were instrumental in supporting the growing Palm Springs Village resort destination; and

WHEREAS, Hispanics are the largest ethnic minority group in the country, the largest and fastest growing minority community in Palm Springs, and represent 26.8% of our entire population with over 12,800 residents.³ Since 1910 as families left Mexico during the Mexican Revolution,⁴ many generations of Hispanic Americans have consistently helped make our city and our community strong and prosperous. They contribute to our community in countless ways including having positive economic, social and political impacts; and

¹ inclusive of gender-expansive and gender non-conforming individuals

² Many Latino Americans trace their roots to the cultures of the indigenous peoples of the Americas - including the Arawaks, the Aztecs, the Incas, the Maya, and the Tainos, some trace their roots to the Spanish explorers, or to the Africans who were brought as slaves to the New World.

³ According to recent data from the Census Bureau. (total population counts 47,897)

⁴ 1910-1920

WHEREAS, Hispanic Americans embody the best of our American values, including commitment to faith, family, and to our country. Brave Hispanic Americans protect us and have served proudly and bravely in all branches of our nation's military since 1861.⁵

Hispanic Americans work in industries that are essential to the continuous growth and prosperity of our economy including construction and manufacturing, retail, food and hospitality, healthcare and social services, transportation and warehousing, and residential and commercial services among many others; and

WHEREAS, Most students graduating from college in Palm Springs are Hispanic or Latino with a large number of degrees awarded to licensed practical and vocational nurse training, nurse assistant and patient care assistant, medical assistant, and home health aide; and

WHEREAS, We are proud of the Mexican heritage that includes Indian and Spanish blood and centuries of hope and sacrifice. Diverse Mexican-American, Chicano, Latino, Spanish, Latinx or Hispanic cultures are essential to defining the unique culture represented by community members residing within the City of Palm Springs.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it resolved we, the undersigned members of the Palm Springs City Council, do hereby proclaim September 15th to October 15th, 2021, as Hispanic Heritage Month in Palm Springs and encourage all residents to celebrate the rich culture, heritage, diversity, and achievements of Hispanic and Latino Americans, and go forward every day recognizing their contributions in the great City of Palm Springs.

BE IT RESOLVED, this celebration serves as an opportunity to dispel ignorance, prejudice, and fear through education about multiculturalism and the resilience and history of the countless contributions of Hispanic and Latino-identified communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The City of Palm Springs encourages and promotes strong and inclusive communities and is committed to recognizing and celebrating efforts to bring people together for a greater good.

Resources

EBSCO

<https://www.ebsco.com/blogs/ebscopost/top-resources-national-hispanic-heritage-month>

National Hispanic Heritage Month (.gov)

⁵ <https://www.army.mil/hispanics/history.html>

<https://hispanicheritagemonth.gov>

U.S. Census Bureau

<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/palmspringscitycalifornia,US/RHI725219#RHI725219>

Hugo Loyola (917) 804-7528 hugoloyola@mac.com
Commissioner, Human Rights | Palm Springs California.

[NAME] BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE FY 2021-22 PRIORITY MATRIX

Board / Commission / Committee Name		
Brief Description of Board / Commission / Committee Charge		
Significant Recent Accomplishments		
<i>Provide a brief list of accomplishments from the last few years that you are most proud of.</i>		
BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE PRIORITIES FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION		
FY 2021-2022 Ongoing Priorities/Areas of Focus		
<i>Identify those priorities related to the ongoing work of the group. Be specific about what you want to accomplish in the 2022 timeframe. Consider things that the group must continue to do because of state or local mandates, stated goals, or the need to prevent harm or detrimental impacts. Please list in order of priority.</i>		
Priority	Rationale	Measure(s) of Success
1.		
2.		
2022 New Priorities/Areas of Focus		
<i>List any new or emerging topics that may be critical for the group to address in 2022.</i>		
Priority	Rationale	Measure of Success
1.		
2.		
Activities that Could Be Deferred, Referred, or Eliminated		
<i>List any current group activities that can or should be deferred to a later time, referred to another organization, or eliminated to make room for priorities.</i>		
OTHER CRITICAL FACTORS FOR SUCCESS		
Critical Organizational Changes Needed		
<i>List any organizational changes that will be needed to advance the identified priorities. This could include items such as increased staffing, organizational realignments, and new funding or funding mechanisms.</i>		
Process Improvements		
<i>List any process improvements that you would suggest that will contribute to the successful implementation of priorities. This could include items such as improving lines of communication with Council, improving how work gets done, and developing new procedures.</i>		

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION FY 2021-22 PRIORITY MATRIX

Board / Commission / Committee Name		
Sustainability Commission		
Brief Description of Board / Commission / Committee Charge		
Provide the City with advice and recommendations related to natural resource conservation; energy and water efficiency; waste management and recycling; and other natural resource management issues. Also, provide input on community education and project finance options.		
Significant Recent Accomplishments		
Provide a brief list of accomplishments from the last few years that you are most proud of.		
Food Ware Ordinance, Leaf Blower Ordinance and Implementation, GHG Inventory Update, Sustainability Scholarship Program		
BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE PRIORITIES FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION		
FY 2021-2022 Ongoing Priorities/Areas of Focus		
Identify those priorities related to the ongoing work of the group. Be specific about what you want to accomplish in the 2022 timeframe. Consider things that the group must continue to do because of state or local mandates, stated goals, or the need to prevent harm or detrimental impacts. Please list in order of priority.		
Priority	Rationale	Measure(s) of Success
1. Implement Food Ware Ordinance	City Code	Polystyrene food ware and plastic straws are eliminated Full compliance with on-site reusables at full-service, dine-in restaurants
2. Implement SB 1383 Requirements	State Mandate	All requirements are in place by end of 2022.
2022 New Priorities/Areas of Focus		
List any new or emerging topics that may be critical for the group to address in 2022.		
Priority	Rationale	Measure of Success
1. Night Sky Guidance and Incentives	Economic Development, Habitat Protection, Light Pollution Reduction	Issue Guidance, establish incentive program
2.		
Activities that Could Be Deferred, Referred, or Eliminated		
List any current group activities that can or should be deferred to a later time, referred to another organization, or eliminated to make room for priorities.		
Community Garden (move to Parks & Recreation)		
OTHER CRITICAL FACTORS FOR SUCCESS		
Critical Organizational Changes Needed		
List any organizational changes that will be needed to advance the identified priorities. This could include items such as increased staffing, organizational realignments, and new funding or funding mechanisms.		
City-wide integration of Sustainability Topics – matrixed staffing, early review, etc.		
Funding for reusable food ware pilot (Approximately \$250,000)		

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION FY 2021-22 PRIORITY MATRIX

Process Improvements

List any process improvements that you would suggest that will contribute to the successful implementation of priorities. This could include items such as improving lines of communication with Council, improving how work gets done, and developing new procedures.

Improve regularity of engagement with Council Liaisons