

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

www.palmspringsca.gov

AGENDA

Monday
May 9, 2022



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 Assembly Bill 361, 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/89144291995?pwd=ZFViS284c0UwcG5WZDBUOGhDQnJCdz09>

or call (669) 900-6833 Zoom Meeting ID 891 4429 1995, Passcode 648818

- 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 Lilly Hanner
 3. **QUORUM:**
 4. **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.*

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:**

7. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** March 14, 2022, and April 11, 2022

8. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:**

A. Reports

1. Executive Report Standing Committee (Chair deHarte, Vice Chair Shepherd)
 - a. Retreat
2. Community Relations /Budget/Personnel Report
 - a. PSPD LGBT Outreach Liaison (deHarte)
 - b. Master Calendar Liaison (Ramoran)
 - c. Main Street Liaison (deHarte)
 - d. Organized Neighborhoods of Palm Springs Liaison (Vignolo)
3. Cultural Affairs Report

- 4. Desert Highland Gateway Estates Community Association Liaison (Andrade, Flood, Shepherd)
- 5. Seniors/People with Disabilities Veterans Affairs Report
 - a. Veterans Issues Liaison (Flood, Vignolo)
- 6. Youth/Education Affairs Standing Committee
 - a. Student Representatives (Hanner, Robles, Shepherd, Vignolo)
- 7. Commission Development/Mediation Report
 - a. Mediation Liaison (Andrade, Vignolo)
- 8. Equity and Social Justice Committee Update (Ramoran)

B. Potential Educational Program Collaboration with Boys and Girls Club

C. National Bullying Month (October) Symposium

D. Guaranteed Income Pilot Program

E. Commissioner, Staff, and Student Comments

- a. Navigation Center Stakeholder Meeting

F. Topical Newsworthy Items

9. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT HRC MEETING:

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

11. ADJOURNMENT: The Commission will adjourn to an adjourned regular meeting Monday, June 13, 2022.

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 4:00 p.m., May 5, 2022, 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



MINUTES
Regular Meeting

Monday, March 14, 2022
Virtual Zoom Meeting

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Ron deHarte called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:**
 - Present:** Commissioners: Andrade, deHarte, Flood, Loyola, Ramoran, and Student Representative Hanner
 - Absent:** Commissioner: Cleary, Robles, Shepherd, and Vignolo
 - Staff Present:** Jay Virata, Director, Community & Economic Development
3. **QUORUM:** YES.
4. **MISSION STATEMENT & GOALS:** The meeting proceeded with the order of the agenda.
5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** NONE.
6. **CHAIR COMMENTS:** Chair deHarte expressed condolences to Nicki Randolph's wife and family on her passing and reported tonight's meeting will be adjourned in her memory.
7. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** January 10, 2022
MOTION BY: Commissioner Loyola, Second by Commissioner Flood to approve the minutes of January 10, 2022, as presented.
MOTION CARRIED. YES 5 – NO 0 ABSENT: 4
8. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:**
 - A. Reports - None
 - Executive Report Standing Committee (Chair deHarte, Vice Chair Shepherd) - None
 - a. Retreat
 - Community Relations /Budget/Personnel Report
 - a. PSPD LGBT Outreach Liaison (deHarte)
 - Chair deHarte reported Police Chief Mills recently completed outreach meetings in every district; and congratulated the department for seeking feedback in that type of forum and showing a presence in the community.
 - b. Master Calendar Liaison (Ramoran)
 - Commissioner Ramoran discussed the recent Black History Month Parade and Town Fair; commented on the first Equity and Social Justice Committee meeting; addressed the upcoming Homeless Navigation Center Community meeting on March 15; reported Desert Water Agency will be introducing new districts at its Board Meeting, for more information visit www.dwa.org; announced the upcoming ONE-PS Picnic and Community Expo on March 19 and Trans Pride Fair event on March 27.
 - Commission participation was gathered and discussed for the events held on March 19 and March 27.
 - Chair deHarte further announced a Transgender Visibility Day event is being held on March 25 in Coachella for the east valley community.
 - c. Main Street Liaison (deHarte) - None

- d. Organized Neighborhoods of Palm Springs Liaison (Vignolo) - None

Cultural Affairs Report

Desert Highland Gateway Estates Community Association Liaison (Andrade, Flood, Shepherd)

Commissioner Flood commented on the upcoming meeting to address the Homeless Navigation Center.

Director Virata reported the City's consultant will reach out to the Human Rights Commission for its input on the Navigation Center.

Seniors/People with Disabilities Veterans Affairs Report

- a. Veterans Issues Liaison (Flood, Vignolo)

Youth/Education Affairs Standing Committee

- a. Student Representatives (Hanner, Robles, Shepherd, Vignolo)

Student Representative Hanner announced the mask mandate has been lifted at her high school.

Chair deHarte reported there is another Student Representative position within the Commission and encouraged students to apply.

Commission Development/Mediation Report

- a. Mediation Liaison (Andrade, Vignolo)

Commissioner Andrade reported connecting with Mary Colbert, who is an experienced mediator who shared input regarding the Commission's Mediation program needing to be under an arm of government to be recognized as a dispute resolution program for a City and not under the arm of a Committee.

Director Virata stated there is a question as to whether the position should be under the City Attorney and reported he will check with the City Attorney for his guidance.

Commissioner Flood reported attending the first roundtable meeting with the Community Action Partnership Disput Resolution Program; noted he observed his first mediation case; he will keep the Commission updated as he will try to participate in more observations. Will forward upcoming meetings to Commissioners Andrade and Ramoran.

B. Commissioner, Staff, and Student Comments

Director Virata reported that Commissioner Robles advised him the Boys and Girls Club has a desire to partner with the Human Rights Commission on an education program and suggested discussing the matter at an upcoming meeting.

Commissioner Ramoran reported March is Women's History Month; addressed the theme and suggested that City Council consider a proclamation in honor of Women's History Month, in the future. Additionally, he noted that residents have approached him about the proposed Navigation Center and commented on the need to pay attention to what is happening and ensure that residents get their voices heard.

Student Representative Hanner commented on the homeless issue and discussed a recent increase in the homeless population at Sunrise Park.

C. Topical Newsworthy Items

9. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT HRC MEETING:

Director Virata reiterated that consideration of partnering with the Boys and Girls Club will be on the Commission's next agenda as well as stakeholder feedback.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chair deHarte reported receiving complimentary comments from participants in the awards program last month.

- 11. ADJOURNMENT:** The Commission adjourned at 6:09 p.m. to the next regular meeting on Monday, April 11, 2022 at 5:30 p.m., via teleconference in memory of Nicki Randolph.

DRAFT

Human Rights Commission
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA



MINUTES
Regular Meeting

Monday, April 11, 2022
Virtual Zoom Meeting

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Ron deHarte called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:**
 - Present:** Commissioners: deHarte, Flood, Loyola, Ramoran, Robles, Shepherd, Vignolo and Student Representative Hanner
 - Absent:** Commissioners: Andrade and Cleary
 - Staff Present:** Jay Virata, Director, Community & Economic Development
3. **QUORUM:** Yes.
4. **MISSION STATEMENT & GOALS:** The meeting proceeded with the order of the agenda.
5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.
6. **CHAIR COMMENTS:** Chair deHarte stated the Smoking Ordinance is not listed as a current agenda item because it was unclear why the topic is being requested to return back to the Commission. The topic will be discussed further during the proposed agenda items.
7. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** February 14, 2022
 - MOTION BY:** Commissioner Loyola, second by Commissioner Robles to approve the minutes of February 14, 2022, as corrected.
 - MOTION CARRIED, UNANIMOUSLY.**
8. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:**
 - A. Reports
 1. Executive Report Standing Committee (Chair deHarte, Vice Chair Shepherd) - None
 - a. Retreat - None
 2. Community Relations /Budget/Personnel Report – None
 - a. PSPD LGBT Outreach Liaison (deHarte) - None
 - b. Master Calendar Liaison (Ramoran)

Commissioner Ramoran, announced Preservation Matters Symposium occurs April 23 and 24, 2022 and May is National Asian-American and Pacific Islander month as well as Mental Health Awareness.
 - c. Main Street Liaison (deHarte) - None
 - d. Organized Neighborhoods of Palm Springs Liaison (Vignolo)

Commissioner Vignolo announced the Organized Neighborhood group is returning to in-person meetings.

3. Cultural Affairs Report - None

4. Desert Highland Gateway Estates Community Association Liaison (Andrade, Flood, Shepherd)

Vice Chair Shepherd attended a community meeting at the James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center regarding the Navigation Center; stated another community meeting has been scheduled; questioned if the Commission would like to take a position on the subject and noted the community's input was disregarded.

Director Jay Virata reported the Human Rights Commission has been identified as one of the groups to provide input regarding the operation of the navigation center.

Commissioner Ramoran discussed the Equity and Social Justice Committee and suggested assigning a liaison to address the matter.

Commissioner Vignolo requested the Human Rights Commission be provided with sufficient notice to prepare for the Navigation Center meeting.

5. Seniors/People with Disabilities Veterans Affairs Report

a. Veterans Issues Liaison (Flood, Vignolo)

Commissioner Flood reported he will be attending an upcoming meeting at the American Legion.

6. Youth/Education Affairs Standing Committee - None

a. Student Representatives (Hanner, Robles, Shepherd, Vignolo)

7. Commission Development/Mediation Report - None

a. Mediation Liaison (Andrade, Vignolo)

B. Potential Educational Program Collaboration with Boys and Girls Club

Commissioner Robles reported the Boys and Girls Club received a grant from Amazon Rise and are interested in a Human Rights involvement project for teens; stated they would like the Human Rights Commission to be engaged in providing information and advice on human rights issues.

Members commented favorably regarding the concept. Discussion followed regarding a specific timeline, program collaboration with other entities, holding in-person meetings and endorsing Commissioner Robles and one other Commissioner to carry the idea forward.

Commissioner Vignolo offered to collaborate with Commissioner Robles to address the request from the Boys and Girls Club and present ideas to the Commission at its next meeting.

C. Seeking Stakeholder Feedback

Director Virata reported this matter was in connection with mediation and noted he has reached out to the City Attorney about establishing a model but has not yet heard from him.

D. Commissioner, Staff, and Student Comments

E. Topical Newsworthy Items

Chair deHarte stated Items D and E will be combined.

Commissioner Ramoran discussed the upcoming Preservation Matters Symposium; urged Commissioners to participate; reported the City Council approved financial support to DAP Health and Queer Works to develop a Universal Basic Income Program for transgender and non-binary residents. He responded the Sustainability Commission requested to have the draft "Smoking Ordinance" be added to the Agenda for review and approval before it is presented to City Council in June.

Chair deHarte noted the Commission previously discussed the topic and he was asked to send a letter stating the Human Rights Commission would not take a position on the topic.

There was consensus not to agendize this matter.

Commissioner Vignolo suggested the Commission explore sponsoring a symposium during National Bullying Prevention Month (October) in collaboration with other organizations and asked to place the topic on an upcoming agenda.

Student Representative Hanner reported hearing a lot of criticism from other students regarding the pilot program focusing on transgender and non-binary individuals.

Vice Chair Shepherd added the same reaction has been observed from people in the community and commented on the need for increased clarity about the program.

Chair deHarte noted the topic will be added to the Commission's May meeting agenda as well as Commissioner Vignolo's suggestion to explore sponsoring a symposium during National Bullying Prevention Month (October).

Commissioner Flood asked about the Commission's participation in the Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast.

9. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT HRC MEETING:

The following agenda items were proposed:

- Conversation on the guaranteed income program
- Exploration of sponsoring a symposium on bullying during National Bullying Prevention Month
- Equity and Social Justice Committee update
- Navigation Center Stakeholder Meeting
- Potential Educational Program with the Boys and Girls Club

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

11. ADJOURNMENT: The Commission adjourned at 6:24 p.m. to an adjourned regular meeting on Monday, May 9, 2022 at 5:30 p.m., via teleconference.