

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

[www.palmspringsca.gov](http://www.palmspringsca.gov)

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Monday  
March 13, 2023  
5:30 p.m.



Palm Springs City Hall  
3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way  
Large Conference Room

**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 may be conducted by teleconference. There will be in-person public access to the meeting location. To join the meeting via teleconference, please use the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89144291995?pwd=ZfVvS284c0UwcG5WZDBUOGhDQnJCdz09>

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

- Written public comment may also be submitted to [cityclerk@palmspringsca.gov](mailto: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 Hugo Loyola
  2. **ROLL CALL:** Commission Members: David Vignolo, Oliver Cleary, Glenn Flood, Vice Chair Donna Shepherd, Chair Hugo Loyola  
Student Representative Lilly Hanner
  3. **PRESENTATIONS.** None
  4. **ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA:**
  5. **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.*

- 6. 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.

**7. CHAIR COMMENTS:**

- 8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** January 17, 2023, February 13, 2023

**9. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:****A. Committee and Liaison Reports**

1. Executive Report Standing Committee (Chair Loyola, Vice Chair Shepherd)
2. PSPD LGBT Outreach Liaison Report (Loyola)
3. Master Calendar Liaison Report (Vignolo)
4. Main Street Liaison Report (Loyola)
5. Organized Neighborhoods of Palm Springs Liaison Report (Vignolo)
6. Desert Highland Gateway Estates Community Association Liaison Report (Flood, Shepherd)
7. Veterans Issues Liaison (Flood, Vignolo)
8. Youth/Education Affairs Standing Committee (Hanner, Shepherd, Vignolo)
9. Mediation Liaison (Vignolo)
10. Equity and Social Justice Committee Liaison Update (Shepherd, Ramoran)

**B. Review Mature Adults Group Presentation (Vignolo)****C. Discuss potential partnerships with other organizations.**

- D. Planning Topics and Activities for Next Year Update (Loyola)
- E. Commissioner, Staff, and Student Comments

**10. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT HRC MEETING:**

**11. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**12. ADJOURNMENT:** The Commission will adjourn to an adjourned regular meeting Monday, April 10, 2023.

**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., February 10, 2023, 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**  
**Special Meeting**  
**Monday, January 17, 2023**  
Virtual Zoom Meeting

**FOR APPROVAL**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Loyola called the meeting to order at 5:30p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Commissioners: Cleary, Flood, Loyola, Ramoran, Vignolo.

Student Representative Hanner and Commissioner Shepherd were not present during the roll call.

**Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Jay Virata, Director, Community & Economic Development

3. **ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA:** The Human Rights Commission agreed to accept the agenda as presented with moving the order of items 8D and 8F for discussion right after Item.7.

YES: 5 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (SHEPHERD)

4. **MISSION STATEMENT & GOALS:**

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Norm King commented on Agenda Item. 8B.

Doug Evans commented on Agenda Item. 8B

Jacoby Rostovsky shared information about the Queerworks Organization and provided suggestions for partnership and collaboration opportunities to better serve the transgender and nonbinary community.

**Student Representative Hanner arrived at 5:37PM**

6. **CHAIR COMMENTS:** None.

7. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** December 12, 2022

**MOTION BY:** Commissioner Vignolo, second by Commissioner Flood to approve the minutes as presented

YES: 5 NO: 0 ABSENT: 1 (VICE CHAIR SHEPHERD)

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

**Vice Chair Shepherd arrived at 5:52PM**

**The Commission proceeded with Agenda items 8D and 8F before resuming the regular order of the agenda.**

8D. Discuss potential partnerships with other organizations. (Loyola)  
Commissioner Vignolo spoke in favor of a partnership opportunity with the events identified by Jacoby Rostovsky, Executive Director of Queerworks.

Chair Loyola commented in favor of the Commission engaging with the Queerworks Organization.

8F. Planning Topics and Activities for Next Year Update (Loyola)  
Commissioner Vignolo reported on the National Day of Reading: A Celebration of Stories Supporting Transgender and Non-Binary Youth Draft Event Proposal for Thursday, February 16, 2023. Support

was received by the Commission for the proposed event. Commissioner Vignolo will follow up with Amy Blaisdell, Communications Director for event promotion, and Julie Warren, Library and Public Services Manager, about possibly hosting the event.

Chair Loyola has engaged with the following organizations for possible partnership and collaboration opportunities: Palm Spring Community Partnership on Homeless; Brothers of the Desert. The Commission continues to have an ongoing collaboration with the Public Arts Commission.

**The Commission resumed with the regular order of the Agenda.**

A. Committee and Liaison Reports

1. Executive Report Standing Committee (Chair Loyola, Vice Chair Shepherd) No Report.
2. PSPD LGBT Outreach Liaison (Loyola)  
Chair Loyola reported the next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 26, 2023 at 4:00pm.
3. Master Calendar Liaison (Vignolo) No Report.
4. Main Street Liaison (Loyola) No Report.
5. Organized Neighborhoods of Palm Springs Liaison (Vignolo)  
Commissioner Vignolo attended the January 10, 2023 ONE-PS meeting and provided highlights from the meeting on the following: Councilmember deHarte's priorities; building a program to educate communities about issues in the Black Community as part of Black History Month; Governmental Affairs subcommittee; Blue Zone Study Wellness Initiative; Lt. Mike Villages is the new PSPD ONE-PS Liaison; Art in the Park in the Dark – April 15<sup>th</sup> at Demuth Park.

The Annual ONE-PS Picnic and Community Expo will be held on March 25, 2023, at Ruth Hardy Park from 11am to 2pm. Commissioner Vignolo received Commission support to proceed with registration. Commissioner and student representative participation was gathered.

6. Desert Highland Gateway Estates Community Association Liaison (Andrade, Flood, Shepherd)  
Vice Chair Shepherd indicated the Association is moving to in-person meetings in February. Suggested to Commissioner Flood about going together if schedule permits.
  7. Veterans Issues Liaison (Flood, Vignolo) No Report.
  8. Youth/Education Affairs Standing Committee (Hanner, Shepherd, Vignolo)  
Commissioner Vignolo will be sending a meeting request to the committee members to schedule an organizational meeting within the next two weeks.
  9. Mediation Liaison (Vignolo) No Report.
  10. Equity and Social Justice Committee Update (Shepherd, Ramoran) No Report.
- B. Consider request by Dr. Ryan Kray that the Human Rights Commission report entitled "Palm Springs City Hall Monument Report" be appended to give proper recognition to Dr. Kray's ideas, words, concepts, and conclusions from her article entitled "The Path to Paradise: Expropriation, Exodus, and Exclusion in the Making of Palm Springs." (Loyola).

Discussion among the Commission, student representative, and Staff Liaison ensued. The following motion was made:

**MOTION BY:** Chair Loyola, second by Commissioner Vignolo, to have Staff Liaison reach out to the City Attorney and Communications Director for their intervention, and support to move the item forward and direct Staff Liaison to provide an update at the Human Rights Commission's regular meeting in March. Motion passes. YES 6, NO 0.

In response to inquiry, Director Virata stated he will be responding to Dr. Kray that additional information is being requested.

- C. Discuss participation in Black History Awards Gala scheduled for February 4, 2023. (Loyola) Chair Loyola announced that the Human Rights Commission was selected as an award recipient for the 2023 Black History Awards Gala.

Vice Chair Shepherd commented positively on the recognition given by the Black History Awards.

Participation in the Black History Awards Gala was discussed and confirmed among the Commission.

- E. Community Service Awards – Monday, February 13, 2023, 5:30 p.m., Council Chamber (Loyola) Chair Loyola announced that all the honorees have accepted the nomination. A press release is being issued tomorrow by the Communication Director. Ceremony details, logistics, and Commissioner roles for the day of the ceremony were stated. The public is invited to attend.

- G. Commissioner, Staff, and Student Comments  
Chair Loyola encouraged Commissioners to bring forward organizations they would like the Commission to engage and be more assertive with.

Vice Chair Shepherd will be following up with an organization that approached her to see if they could offer help with the homeless issue.

Student Representative Hanner suggested reaching out to former honorees that advocate to youth for engagement and collaboration.

Commissioner Ramoran named several organizations he is involved with and hopes to get more engagement with, there are a lot of opportunities for the Commission.

**9. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT HRC MEETING:**

The Commission discussed the tentative upcoming agenda items.

**10. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- 2023 Homeless Point-in-Time-Count, Wednesday, January 25, 2023

Director Virata shared event details and registration information for the 2023 Homeless Point-in-time Count.

**10. ADJOURNMENT:**

It was moved by Vice Chair Shepherd, Seconded by Commissioner Ramoran to adjourn the Commission meeting at 7:06 p.m. to an adjourned regular meeting on Monday, February 13, 2023, at 5:30 p.m., at Palm Springs City Hall, Council Chamber.

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Jay Virata  
Director of Community & Economic Development

APPROVED BY THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/2023

Human Rights Commission  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA



MINUTES  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, February 13, 2023  
Palm Springs City Hall, Council Chambers

**FOR APPROVAL**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Loyola called the meeting to order at 5:30p.m

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Palm Springs Police Honor Guard performed.

2. **ROLL CALL:**

**Present:** Commissioners: Cleary, Flood, Loyola, Ramoran, Shepherd, Vignolo, and Student Representative Hanner

**Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Jay Virata, Director, Community & Economic Development

3. **ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA:** By consensus, the Human Rights Commission agreed to accept the agenda as presented.

4. **MISSION STATEMENT & GOALS:** Chair Loyola read the mission statement.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE.**

6. **CHAIR COMMENTS: NONE.**

7. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: NONE.**

8. **PROGRAM:**

Introductions - Chair Loyola acknowledged the special attendance of guests Mayor Grace Garner and Councilmember Ron deHarte; and introduced, members of the Human Rights Commissioner Board, its Student Representative, and Staff Liaison.

An overview of the Human Rights Commission's role and community impact was shared along with the purpose of the Community Service Awards and the accomplishments of the honorees being honored.

Welcome - Mayor Grace Garner provided welcoming comments to guests and thanked all the honorees for their accomplishments and the valuable contributions they have done for the city.

Presentation of Community Service Awards - The following persons and organizations were identified as Community Service Awards recipients:

Vice Chair Shepherd introduced and recognized honoree **Bettye Cotton**.

Student Representative Hanner introduced and recognized honoree **Tori St. Johns**.

Commissioner Flood introduced and recognized honoree **Dan Gore**.

Commissioner Vignolo introduced and recognized honoree **PFLAG Palm Springs/Desert Communities**.

Commissioner Ramoran introduced and recognized honoree **Jase Nagaia**.

Commissioner Cleary introduced and recognized honoree **Brett Klein**.

Chair Loyola introduced and recognized honoree **Gary Moline**.

Final and closing remarks for the awards ceremony were provided by Chair Loyola.

**9. ADJOURNMENT:**

It was moved by Commissioner Vignolo, Seconded by Commissioner Food to adjourn the Commission meeting at 6:31 p.m. to an adjourned regular meeting on Monday, March 13, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

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Jay Virata  
Director of Community & Economic Development

APPROVED BY THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/2023.