

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

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MEETING AGENDA

Monday
June 12, 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=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 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. **WELCOME NEW AND REAPPOINTED COMMISSIONERS**

Donna Shepherd, David Vignolo, Oliver Cleary, Edwin Ramoran, Carlotta Rinke, Michael MJ Horn, Beverly Greer
 4. **PRESENTATIONS.**
 5. **ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA:**

6. 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.*

7. 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.

8. CHAIR COMMENTS:

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 13, 2023, and April 17, 2023

10. 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,)

- B. Discussion on Rules and Procedures and Committees.
- C. Discus potential partnerships with other organizations.
- D. Youth Human Rights Summer Camp at James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center (Vignolo)
- E. 2nd Annual Bullying Symposium (Vignolo)
- F. Commissioner, Staff, and Student Comments

11. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT HRC MEETING:

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

13. ADJOURNMENT: The Commission will adjourn to a special meeting date to be determined.

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., June 8, 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
Regular Meeting
Monday, March 13, 2023
Palm Springs City Hall, Large Conference Room

FOR APPROVAL

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Hugo Loyola at 5:30p.m.
2. ROLL CALL:
Present: Commissioners Vignolo, Cleary, Flood, Shepherd, Loyola and Student Representative Hanner

Absent: None.

Staff Present: Jay Virata, Director, Community & Economic Development.
3. PRESENTATIONS. None
4. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA:
MOTION BY: Commissioner Cleary, Second by Commissioner Vignolo to accept the Agenda as presented. Motion carried. YES: 5 NO: 0.
5. MISSION STATEMENT & GOALS:
6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:
Tom Swan Hernandez
David Christianson
Doug Evans
Amado C. Salinas II
7. CHAIR COMMENTS: Chair Loyola spoke on the community events the Commission participated in the month of February. It was stated that the City Attorney's Office is taking over the matter of the Palm Springs Monument Report.
8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 17, 2023, February 13, 2023
MOTION BY: Commissioner Cleary, Second by Commissioner Vignolo to accept the minutes from January 17, 2023 and February 13, 2023 as presented. MOTION CARRIED. YES: 5 NO: 0.
9. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:
 - A. Committee and Liaison Reports
 1. Executive Report Standing Committee (Chair Loyola, Vice Chair Shepherd) No report.
 2. PSPD LGBT Outreach Liaison Report (Loyola) No report.
 3. Master Calendar Liaison Report (Vignolo)
Commissioner Vignolo is working with Jarvis Crawford, Community Center Manager at James O. Jessie Desert Highland Community to coordinate a reading event for youth tentatively in April pending Commission interest/endorsement.
 4. Main Street Liaison Report (Loyola) No report.
 5. Organized Neighborhoods of Palm Springs Liaison Report (Vignolo)
Commissioner Vignolo announced the next ONE-PS meeting will be on March 14, 2023, at the Police Training Center, 200 S. Civic Drive, 92262; The ONE-PS 2023 Neighborhood Picnic is on March 25, 2023. The Commission's participation was confirmed. The public is invited to attend.

Commissioner Flood commented on his participation at last year's ONE-PS Neighborhood Picnic. He encouraged commissioners to participate this year.

6. Desert Highland Gateway Estates Community Association Liaison Report (Flood, Shepherd) No Report.

7. Veterans Issues Liaison (Flood, Vignolo) No report.

8. Youth/Education Affairs Standing Committee (Hanner, Shepherd, Vignolo)

Commissioner Vignolo provided an update from the committee's meeting in January and shared he is waiting to hear back from the Boys and Girls Club Youth Coordinator regarding a partnership for creating a youth program.

9. Mediation Liaison (Vignolo)

Vice Chair Shepherd reported that she is in Mediation Training and will soon be authorized as a certified mediator joining Commissioner Flood in the endeavor.

10. Equity and Social Justice Committee Liaison Update (Shepherd) No report.

Commissioner Vignolo further commented on the Commission possibly endorsing an educational youth summer camp on Human Rights with James O. Jessie Desert Highland Community Center. He would like to have the item for discussion at the next meeting.

B. Review Mature Adults Group Presentation (Vignolo)

Vice Chair Shepherd commented positively on Commissioner Vignolo's initiative on creating a forward movement and highlighted the importance of the full Commission's awareness of upcoming events with more than a week's notice to be able to have the opportunity to participate.

Commissioner Vignolo presented a PowerPoint presentation on Human Rights to be presented at the Mature Adults Program on March 29, 2023 from 10am to 12:00pm. Comments and questions ensued regarding the presentation.

Commissioner Flood left the meeting at 6:07p.m.

C. Discuss potential partnerships with other organizations.

Chair Loyola gave an update on the Universal Basic Income Program being available for members of the Transgender and Non-Binary community starting March 15; The Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast is on May 11, 2023, event participation details including admission fees were discussed.

D. Planning Topics and Activities for Next Year Update (Loyola)

Chair Loyola encouraged the Commission to look at certain groups and organizations they feel the Commission should engage.

E. Commissioner, Staff, and Student Comments

Director Virata announced former Commissioner Ramoran's term has been completed and is no longer serving on the Human Rights Commission.

Chair Loyola thanked former Commissioner Ramoran for his service on the Commission.

Comments were made among the Commission on how to spread awareness of the LGBTQ Veteran Memorial presented during public comment.

Commissioner Vignolo suggested the Palm Springs Monument Report be added as an agenda item at the next meeting for discussion or a vote and say the Commission as a whole is not prepared to review the existing report issued and there will be no further discussion.

Chair Loyola specified the Palm Springs Monument Report is being handled by the City Attorney's Office and stated the Commission should be very careful with comments on the matter now that the City Attorney is involved.

Student Representative Hanner commented that it is necessary to keep on public record that the Palm Springs Monument Report is out of the Human Rights Commission's hands, but a resolution is trying to be made.

Commissioner Cleary concurred with Commissioner Vignolo and suggested the Palm Springs Monument Report should be agendaized.

Vice Chair Shepherd stated the matter should not be addressed until further instruction is given by the City Attorney's Office to the Commission.

10. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT HRC MEETING:

The commission discussed the tentative upcoming agenda items:

- Palm Springs Monument Report
- Details of the Summer Youth Camp Proposal
- Universal Basic Income Program Update
- Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast.Update

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

12. ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Commissioner Cleary, Seconded by Commissioner Vignolo to adjourn the Commission meeting at 7:09 p.m. to an adjourned regular meeting on Monday, April 10, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

Jay Virata
Director of Community & Economic Development

APPROVED BY THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: _____/_____/2023.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 3, 2022

Congratulations to all those who made the California LGBTQ Veterans Memorial possible and who brought recognition to the LGBTQ+ heroes who have served and sacrificed for the cause of freedom. Each generation of Americans is called to help us live up to our highest ideals, and this memorial is a testament to the power of persistence in the struggle against injustice.

Despite discrimination, prejudice, and other barriers to their full participation in the military and society, LGBTQ+ Americans have always served as a bedrock in our fight for a more just and equitable Nation. Courageously defending our fundamental values and our lives, the individuals you honor blazed a path for LGBTQ+ patriots to serve openly in our Nation's Armed Forces and helped make the possibilities of our country real for every American.

Today, I am honored to be Commander-in-Chief of the strongest and most inclusive military this world has ever known. I am humbled by your courageous service to our Nation and the tremendous sacrifices you have made to advance the noble cause of equality.

When Americans answer the call to serve, they take an oath to defend our Constitution. I am committed to honoring the sacrifice of our LGBTQ+ Service members by standing up for freedom and justice at home and abroad. We can never fully repay our fallen heroes for all they gave, but we will never stop trying.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Biden".

Good afternoon, Chairman and members of the HRC-

Thank you for your hard work and the fact that you have started to question the Monument Report that was used to attack Mayor Frank Bogert's reputation and to remove his statue from city hall.

You did your homework and your action in January set the stage for fixing someone else's problem. The Report was largely plagiarized and there are 100's of factually incorrect information, distorted summaries of facts and a clear lack of integrity. Councilmember deHarte, former council members Foat and Kors and political operatives concocted a plan to attack Frank Bogert and did so with a falacious Monument Report.

The Kray report is not remarkable, and it too includes numerous falsehoods, incorrect information, and selectively ignored significant historical documents that were readily available.

Then this afternoon the city clerk posted a bunch of historical documents that when fully evaluated will show that the city council acted in bad faith in its attacks on Frank Bogert and removal of the statue.

The facts will show that the BIA, Indian landowners, conservators, and guardians lawfully evicted tenants, that the city had a carefully crafted program to help removed vacant structures from Section 14, that before demolition the city inspected each structure to ensure it was vacant and personal possessions had been removed.

These records have been in the possession of the city all this time and we would like to know how long the city knew about the existence of this information.

The recent records undermine the Attorney General opinion regarding section 14. The AG report says that the city kept no records of Section 14. Not so. In reality the AG was invited back to PS to inspect the records. The records are still here at city hall and now available for public review,

Please fix someone else's problem.
Doug Evans

SECTION 14 - CLEAN UP - PROCEDURE

handle these abatements in the following manner:

- 1. Notify the Bureau of Indian Affairs that the program will continue and that vacant structures will be abated at the request of the Bureau and Indian owner or conservator.
- 2. Upon receipt of a written permit to burn, the following steps should be taken:
 1. Investigate to determine that the structure is actually vacant.
 2. Post the property for abatement under Chapter 56.
 3. If no protests are received within the time allowed, proceed with controlled burn.
 4. If protests are received, review with City Attorney and City Manager for decision on further action.
 5. For all abatements keep separate records on each structure.
 6. Take photos.
 7. Maintain affidavits of notice.
 8. Secure affidavits of at least three people that the structure was vacant of occupants or personal belongings.
 9. As part of our procedure, check the Assessor's records to determine if anyone other than the Indian is paying taxes on the property. If so, be sure to notice that person.

Human Rights Commission
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA



MINUTES
Special Meeting
April 17, 2023
Palm Springs City Hall, Council Chambers

FOR APPROVAL

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Loyola called the meeting to order at 5:36p.m
2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners: Cleary (not present during roll call), Flood, Loyola, Shepherd, Vignolo, and Student Representative Hanner

Absent: None.

Staff Present: Jay Virata, Director, Community & Economic Development
3. PRESENTATIONS. "Portrait Gallery" Installation, LGBTQ+ Wall of Honor, and Pillars Public Art Projects (Public Arts Commission Vice Chair Gary Armstrong)
Gary Armstrong, Vice Chair with the Public Arts Commission presented an update on the Pillars of Palm Springs Public Art Project and introduced the "Portrait Gallery" Installation and the LGBTQ + Wall of Honor art projects. Commissioner comments and questions followed.

The meeting proceed to Agenda Item 6. Public Comments.
6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:
Amado C. Salinas II
Andy Sollinger
David Christian

Commissioner Cleary joined the meeting at 5:50pm

The Meeting reverted to Agenda Item 4. Acceptance of the Agenda
4. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA
MOTION BY: Commissioner Vignolo, Second by Commissioner Cleary to amend the agenda to include discussion on what to do with the Palm Springs Monument Report and have the Item be the next order of business, preceding Agenda Item 7. MOTION FAILS: YES: 2; NO: 3.

MOTION BY: Chair Loyola, second by Vice Chair Shepherd to accept the agenda as presented. MOTION CARRIES: YES: 3; NO: 2.

The meeting proceeded to Agenda Item 7 and resumed the regular order of the Agenda.
5. MISSION STATEMENT & GOALS:
7. CHAIR COMMENTS: None.
8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None.
9. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:
A. Committee and Liaison Reports
1. Executive Report Standing Committee (Chair Loyola, Vice Chair Shepherd) None.

2. PSPD LGBT Outreach Liaison Report (Loyola)
Chair Loyola will provide report updates after the next meeting scheduled for April 20, 2023

3. Master Calendar Liaison Report (Vignolo)

Commissioner Vignolo spoke of the Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast being held on May 11, 2023. Commissioner and Student Representative commitment was gathered.

4. Main Street Liaison Report (Loyola) No Report.

5. Organized Neighborhoods of Palm Springs Liaison Report (Vignolo)

Commissioner Vignolo provided highlights from the ONE-PS Neighborhood meeting he attended on April 11, 2023.

6. Desert Highland Gateway Estates Community Association Liaison Report (Flood, Shepherd) No Report.

7. Veterans Issues Liaison (Flood, Vignolo) No Report.

8. Youth/Education Affairs Standing Committee (Hanner, Shepherd, Vignolo)

Commissioner Vignolo will reach out to the committee members to work on a proposal for a summer youth program. It was noted that Commission Cleary had expressed interest to be involved in the proposal.

9. Mediation Liaison (Vignolo)

Vice Chair Shepherd has completed Mediation Training and will be starting the certification on May 1, 2023 at the Palm Springs Small Claims Court; c Commissioner Flood is an approved certified mediator.

10. Equity and Social Justice Committee Liaison Update (Shepherd,)

Vice Chair Shepherd reported that no activity or meetings have occurred.

B. Discuss potential partnerships with other organizations.

Chair Loyola shared Queerworks has indicated the Universal Basic Income (UBI) Pilot Application is now closed; Program questions can be emailed to UBI@queerworks.org.

C. Planning Topics and Activities for Next Year Update (Loyola)

Chair Loyola indicated discussions on summer activities have been presented; would like the Commission to find out and research information on the topic of Human Trafficking.

D. Commissioner, Staff, and Student Comments

Vice Chair Shepherd asked how the community could be updated on the Palm Springs Monument Report?

Chair Loyola informed the commission that the City Attorney's office requested they not speak or engage in further public discussions on the Report, we must follow the City Attorney's directions.

Commissioner Vignolo did not feel the Report was the same as the reparations issue.

Vice Chair Shepherd stated that the Commission should follow the direction of the Attorney.

Director Virata cautioned the Commission and Student Representative not to discuss an item at this level of detail that is not agendized.

10. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT HRC MEETING:

- Draft March and April Meeting Minutes For Approval

Director Virata stated videos of the meetings are available online for the public record.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

12. ADJOURNMENT: It was moved by Commissioner Vignolo, Seconded by Commissioner Food to adjourn the Commission meeting at 6:45 p.m. to an adjourned regular meeting on Monday, May 8, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

Jay Virata
Director of Community & Economic Development

APPROVED BY THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: _____/_____/2023.