

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
HUMAN RELATIONS
COMMISSION MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2015
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES BUREAU
100 W. BROADWAY, SUITE 550, 5:30 PM**

Jeannine Pearce, Chair
Miles McNeeley, Vice Chair
Sandy Horwitz, Commissioner
Byron Bolton, Commissioner
Stephen Gallagher, Commissioner
Rohida Khan, Commissioner



Elisa Buchanan, Commissioner
Nikole Cababa, Commissioner
Otis Hogan, Commissioner
Desmond Fletcher, Commissioner
Elaine Bernal, Commissioner
Veronica Quincy, Commissioner

FINISHED AGENDA & DRAFT MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Pearce called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Jeannine Pearce, Miles McNeeley, Sandy Horwitz, Stephen Gallagher, Elisa Buchanan, Otis Hogan, Desmond Fletcher, Veronica Quincy, Nikole Cababa

Commissioners Excused: Byron Bolton, Rohida Khan, Elaine Bernal

STAFF PRESENT

Tracy Colunga, Special Projects Officer, Neighborhood Relations
Teresa Gomez, Human Dignity Program Coordinator

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 8, 2015
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING**

Suggested Action: Approve recommendation.

A motion was made by Vice Chair McNeeley to approve the minutes with a revision that Commissioner Buchanan's absence at the October 8, 2015 meeting be recorded as an excused absence. The motion with the requested revision was seconded by Commissioner Quincy, and carried on the following vote:

Yes: 7 – Miles McNeeley, Veronica Quincy, Otis Hogan, Jeannine Pearce, Desmond Fletcher, Sandy Horwitz, Elisa Buchanan

Abstained: 1 – Stephen Gallagher

Commissioners Absent: 1 – Nikole Cababa

Commissioners Excused: 3 – Byron Bolton, Rohida Khan, Elaine Bernal

Commissioner Fletcher requested clarification on what an absence and excused absence are.

Chair Pearce stated that if a Commissioner notifies staff that they will be absent from the meeting it is considered an excused absence. After several unexcused absences, a Commissioner could be asked to step down.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Nina Fernando from Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLU) provided an overview of CLU's mission, and provided dates for upcoming community meetings to discuss minimum wage/sick leave policies.

Commissioner Cababa joined the meeting.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Chair Remarks - HRC Chair

Chair Pearce reflected on the Candlelight Vigil for Domestic Violence held in October. Commissioners were once again encouraged to invite people to come and speak during public comment on items that the Commission can support and help raise up those issues.

Discussion ensued about an Equity and Justice Study Session for experts to come and talk about equity and justice, what it means, and how to actualize it in a city, and possibly have the Human Relations Commission be the think tank for how equity and justice plays out throughout the City and be a part of the process.

Chair Pearce and Vice Chair McNeeley will meet with Neighborhood Relations staff to discuss study session options, and will report back to the Commissioners before moving forward with a study session.

Vice Chair McNeeley asked about exploring the possibility of adding more items on the agenda that are relative, such as reiterating the idea that poverty is a human relations issue, and the minimum wage topic.

Discussion ensued.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Commissioner Subcommittee Reports - All Commissioners

Commissioner Hogan reported on the human trafficking seminar he attended at St. Mary's Medical Center.

Commissioner Horwitz reported on the Safe Families Workgroup she attended.

Chair Pearce welcomed a new commissioner, Steve Gallagher.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Commissioner District Updates and Announcements

Commissioner Hogan announced the commemoration of Transgender Day of Remembrance at Harvey Milk Park on November 20, 6:30 p.m.

Commissioner Fletcher stated that the parking attendant is requesting a letter or list of participants to provide parking for the Human Relations Commission meetings at 100 W. Broadway. He also announced that every first Friday there's an Art Walk Bixby Knolls.

7. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Horwitz, seconded by Commissioner Fletcher, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.