
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

City and County of San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Draft Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2023 5:00 PM

ROSTER OF COMMISSIONERS

Karen Clopton, Chairperson
Ann Champion Shaw, Vice-Chairperson
Jayson Johnson, Commissioner
Mark Kelleher, Commissioner
Jason Pellegrini, Commissioner
Leah Pimentel, Commissioner
Irene Yee Riley, Commissioner
Michael Sweet, Commissioner
Joseph Sweiss, Commissioner

Sheryl Evans Davis, EdD
Executive Director

For more information, contact the Commission Secretary at 415-252-2500
Agenda and other information are available on the HRC website: www.sfgov.org/sfhumanrights

Meeting was called to order at 5:04 pm.

Ramaytush Ohlone Land Acknowledgement – **Commissioner Sweet.**

1. 2:43 CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS

Present: Karen Clopton, Ann Champion Shaw, Jason Pellegrini, Leah Pimentel, Michael Sweet, Joseph Sweiss

Absent: Mark Kelleher, Jayson Johnson, Irene Yee-Riley

Meeting was called to order with 6 Commissioners present

2. 3:26 GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (Discussion Item)

Members of the public may address the Commission on matters that are within the Commission’s jurisdiction and are not on today’s agenda.

There was no public comment on this item.

3. 4:39 ADOPTION OF THE April 27, 2023 MEETING MINUTES (Discussion and Possible Action Item)

Review and anticipated adoption of minutes from the Commission’s April 27, 2023 meeting.

Public Comment

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment on this item.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT/ACTION

Commissioner Sweet: Cited his absence at last meeting and appreciation that discussion around transit continued; it is an important subject he noted. Shared appreciation for Director Kirshbaum’s presence.

Motion to adopt April 27, 2023 Meeting minutes as submitted: 1st Commissioner Pellegrini, 2nd Vice Chair Shaw. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

4. 5:55 AAPI HERITAGE MONTH (Discussion Item)

Presentation by Human Rights Commission on Stand Together SF Initiative, RFP 78 Asian Violence Prevention and Security Progress Report, and Identification of Heritage Month Events for Commissioner’s Calendars

Presentation: John McKnight, SR. Community Engagement Manager, San Francisco Human Rights Commission

Public Comment

Secretary McKnight outlined the initial premise for the Stand Together SF Initiative, and it's ongoing need to bridge communities, address underlying causes of anti-Asian violence, and promote the true narratives of solidarity between communities in San Francisco. He presented on the events supported by the Human Rights Commission including the Asian Black Cookoff, the 5K Our Heritage Fun (educational) run, and the Changing the Narratives Art Campaign. Additionally, he addressed the continuing need for the work to continue citing articles showing the rising threat from white supremacists in the US. Lastly, he presented potential changes to the initiatives format with the combination with the Campaign for Solidarity movement and the transition to in person meetings on a regular basis.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment on this item.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Chair Clopton: Asked that the Stand Together SF website and calendar be shared with the Commissioners. She asked the Commissioners to share the website through their Social media posts. She noted the citation during the presentation noting threat the number on e threat nationally to peace is the rise of white nationalism/"supremacists."

Vice Chair Shaw: Asked about collaboration with other community partners. Secretary McKnight stated the Stand Together SF is a unified effort between many community partners and he highlighted Both Sides of the Conversation, the API Heritage Foundation, the Chinese Cultural Center, Booker T. Washington Center, Asians are Strong, We Are One, and many others that join monthly and at the events sponsored and attended by the Human Rights Commission.

Commissioner Pellegrini: Asked for date of the Asian Latino Cookout. The date is August 5th 2023 and will be held in the Mission at 24th and Harrison.

Commissioner Sweet: Asked when the Commission would add in-community meetings. The Chair noted the August 10 meeting was planned to be in community. More will be scheduled, far in advance, for the 2024 calendar.

5. 35:58 SF SOL (SAFETY, OPPORTUNITIES, AND LIFELONG RELATIONSHIPS) COLLABORATIVE

(Discussion Item)

Representative from the San Francisco Department on the Status of Women addresses program designed to address Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) in San Francisco

Presentation: Nazneen Rydhan-Foster, Sr. Program Manager, SF SOL Collaborative & Anti-Trafficking, San Francisco Department on the Status of Women

Public Comment

Nazneen brought before the Commission the work being done by the Department On the Status of Women (DOSW) to address Commercial Exploitation of Children. It is National Foster Care month she noted and the Department's work is to create a continuum of placements and services for youth

experiencing commercial sexual exploitation that is called SF Bay Area Soul, which stands for Safety, Opportunity and Lifelong relationships. She noted that California passed legislation specifically under SB 855 and 2014, which makes the commercial sexual exploitation of a minor a mandatory child abuse report and clarify that a child who is sexually trafficked and whose parent or guardian has failed or is unable to protect them, can be served through child welfare as a victim of abuse and neglect. Nazneen outlined their programs designed to support the at-risk youth and the partners her Department works with including the HYPE Center.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment on this item.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Vice Chair Shaw: Thanked Nazneen for her Department's work and asked if the HYPE Center had a hotline. Nazneen stated there was a hotline for FCS, and the Hype Center is drop-in. The drop in approach is to make access as low barrier as possible.

6. 49:55 COMMISSIONER ACTIVITIES IN THE COMMUNITY (*Discussion Item*)

Commissioners update the public on activities they have participated in and any upcoming events.

Public Comment

Commissioner Pimentel attended Dear Community fundraiser; joined by Secretary McKnight at the event. Packed house with great energy. Dear Community is focused on helping small businesses in the Asia Community which have been impacted by COVID.

Chair Clopton Went to the AAPI Heritage awards presentation and celebration event; the awards happened at the War Memorial Opera House and the Celebration was at City Hall. Dr. Davis and many leaders were in attendance and joined the Pageant of Cultures on stage in an amazing show of diversity and joy.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment on this item.

7. 54:07 ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm.

Motion to Adjourn: 1st Vice Chair Shaw, 2nd Commissioner Pimentel

Transcription of the meeting minutes are available upon request to the Commission Secretary, john.mcknight@sfgov.org.