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# HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

City and County of San Francisco

## ***SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION***

### ***Meeting Minutes***

**June 8, 2023 5:00 PM**

#### **ROSTER OF COMMISSIONERS**

Karen Clopton, Chairperson  
Ann Champion Shaw, Vice-Chairperson  
Rodrigo Duran, Commissioner  
Hasib Emran, Commissioner  
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

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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](http://www.sfgov.org/sfhumanrights)

**Meeting was called to order at 5:04 pm.**

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

**1. 2:20 CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Present:** Karen Clopton, Ann Champion Shaw, Rodrigo Duran, Hasib Emran, Jason Pellegrini, Leah Pimentel, Michael Sweet, Joseph Sweiss, Mark Kelleher, Jayson Johnson, Irene Yee-Riley

**Absent:**

Meeting called to order with 11 Commissioners present.

Commissioner Sweet opened the meeting by welcoming the two new Commissioners, Hasib Emran and Rodrigo Duran. Both Commissioners introduced themselves and expressed gratitude for opportunity to serve and represent their Communities on the Commission.

**2. 8:18 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. 9:04 ADOPTION OF THE May 25, 2023 MEETING MINUTES (Discussion and Possible Action Item)**

Review and anticipated adoption of minutes from the Commission’s May 25, 2023 meeting.

**Public Comment**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment on this item.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENT/ACTION**

Motion to adopt May 25, 2023 Meeting minutes as submitted: 1st Commissioner Riley, 2nd Commissioner Sweiss. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

**4. 11:50 OFFICE OF RACIAL EQUITY PRESENTATION (Discussion Item)**

The Office of Racial Equity will Review Citywide Racial Equity Efforts and Updates

**Presentation:** Sarah Tseng, Policy Director, Office of Racial Equity, San Francisco Human Rights Commission

Jessica Campos, Community Engagement and Partnership, Office of Racial Equity, San Francisco Human Rights Commission

**Public Comment**

Jessica Campos introduced Claudia Flores, joining the HRC team from the Planning Department; she is serving as the Department Liaison. Jessica reviewed the mandate of the Office of Racial Equity (ORE) and their work within the HRC and in all city departments.

Sarah Tseng spoke to the work needed by ORE to enable all of the city's 150 Racial Equity leaders to meet the goals outlined by the City's Racial Equity Plan. Many Racial Equity leaders were serving as "volunteers" within their departments and their work on this front was in addition to their normal assignments; as a result, they were feeling overwhelmed by the task being asked of them.

Claudia Flores spoke to how departments were setting goals for the fiscal year ahead, setting one goal and ensuring progress reports were generated. Director Davis had met with each Department Head to help set goals. ORE will organize the Racial Equity leaders by their established priorities, rather than by department, and allow the leaders to work cooperatively on their shared goals.

Chair Clopton expressed concern that these liaisons were not being truly funded. Director Davis noted that departments would argue they have allocated time for this work to be done. She commented that her work now is in building trust; by building collaboration within the departments, she is addressing the concern that the departments were being "policed." Some departments have budgeted for a team of people to do this work, while others can manage only one or two people. She is focused on building trust so departments adopt this process and to not feel scrutinized.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment on this item.

#### **COMMISSIONER COMMENT**

**Commissioner Pimentel:** Asked who was responsible within the departments to implement the Racial Equity Plan, and what happens in departments that do not have a lead? Claudia stated the responsibility falls on leadership and that leadership might delegate the task. The leadership would distribute tasks to ensure the workload is manageable. Director Davis added that in large departments, it is the role of the Leader to inform their leadership of the plan, and then the leadership delegates the tasks out. The job of ensuring Racial Equity is everyone's responsibility and this means it is not necessarily a single budget line item.

**Commissioner Johnson:** Asked if infrastructure was in place within the departments to support or operationalize the plan? Director Davis noted Department Heads were meeting this month to work out a plan and address disparities amongst departments of varying capacity.

#### **5. 32:40 LGBTQI+ ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATES (*Discussion Item*)**

Staff will update the commission on work supporting priorities identified by the LGBTQI+ Advisory Committee. (CSEC) in San Francisco

**Presentation: Joseph Sweiss, Commissioner, San Francisco Human Rights Commission**

**Mark Kelleher, Commissioner, San Francisco Human Rights Commission**

**Cathy Mulkey Meyer**, San Francisco Human Rights Commission

**Public Comment**

Commissioner Sweiss spoke to new Commissioners, welcoming them, and noting that part of the work by the Commission is the LGBTQI Advisory Committee. The Committee was revamped recently to include stakeholders from across the City. It focuses on Housing, Culture, Health and Equity. Recently the Committee's work led to the Nation's first Drag Laureate, D'ARCY DROLLINGER. The committee aids in budget advocacy and funding of programs, helping to streamline organizations access to city leaders and knowledge of city funding processes all aimed at ensuing advocacy on LGBTQI issues remains active. Lastly, Commissioner Sweiss noted staff position assigned to the Advisory Committee was still actively in works.

Chair Clopton noted that the City's Drag Laureate would be joining the Commission at the June 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment on this item.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENT**

**Commissioner Emran:** Asked to hear more about the Committee has expanded and what stakeholders had joined. Commissioner Sweiss commented that the Committee is comprised of 25 community members and the Commissioners oversee it. Senator Weiner and Supervisor Mandelman have seats along with 10 or 15 at-large seats making up a group 25 actively engaged members.

**Vice Chair Shaw:** Asked about the full-time staff position HRC was funding to support the LGBTQI Advisory Committee. Commissioner Sweiss noted that HRC Staff are acting to support the work of the Committee as the Department moves through the process of creating, budgeting, and then hiring for this new position.

**6. 48:19 JUNETEENTH UPDATE (Discussion Item)**

Staff will update the commission on activities recognizing the Juneteenth national holiday.

**Presentation: Dr. Saidah Leatutufu-Burch, Director**, Dream Keeper Initiative, San Francisco Human Rights Commission

**Pia Harris, Program Director**, San Francisco Housing Development Corporation

**Gwendolyn Brown**, Founder, San Francisco Black Wallstreet

**Cathy Mulkey Meyer**, San Francisco Human Rights Commission

**Public Comment**

Dr. Sai highlighted calendar website promoting all events citywide including the first annual Juneteenth parade up Market Street. Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup> at 11am. Juneteenth at the Waterfront happening June 10<sup>th</sup>

as well from 9-2pm in partnership with the Port. Dream Keepers Initiative (DKI) is a sponsor. Next Friday you are invited to join the Mayor's Kick Off Friday 12:00-1:00pm June 16<sup>th</sup> at City Hall in the North Light Court. In the evening will be the Juneteenth Gala at the Hibernia Bank building at 5pm. All events are on the Juneteenth calendar.

Pia Harris stated gratitude for DKI and noted that San Francisco has been celebrating Juneteenth for 78 years in the Fillmore, second only to Galveston Texas. Excited for the parade on Market Street. The event on Fillmore (Saturday June 17<sup>th</sup>) had over 10,000 people last year and extends along Fillmore from Geary all the way to Fulton (streets closed). Additionally, there will be a Juneteenth Pride event that will start at 6pm the same day.

Dr. Sai noted that the DKI in partnership with the Office of Economic and Workforce Development (OEWD) invested \$1.7mil into Juneteenth events.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment on this item.

#### **COMMISSIONER COMMENT**

**Vice Chair Shaw:** Noted excitement for this year's events and stated her Church will be participating in the event in the Fillmore next Saturday (June 17<sup>th</sup>)

**Commissioner Duran:** Stated how excited he is to see these event coming together. The events are more than a celebration; they are opportunities to network, find resources, share stories, and build bridges. This is the biggest Juneteenth he has seen in San Francisco and complimented the DKI for helping to make this happen.

### **7. 58:18 COMMISSIONER ACTIVITIES IN THE COMMUNITY (Discussion Item)**

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

#### **Public Comment**

**Chair Clopton took time to offer her welcome to the new Commissioners and spoke to the purpose of this agenda item.**

**Commissioner Riley** attended Black and Asian Pride event; she enjoyed meeting people from different communities, and the conversations about some of the issues other communities face. Chair Clopton and Jessica Campos were present.

**Commissioner Emran** Attended an End Gun Violence rally hosted by Center of Urban Excellence and Moms Demand Action. He recognized that June is National Gun Violence Awareness Month and this year alone, 40,000 Americans and their lives cut short due to gun violence, and guns are the number one killer of children.

**Commissioner Johnson** Attended the Frameline Film Festival launch event on May 17th. This is their 47<sup>th</sup> year and the Festival aims to change the world through the power of Queer Cinema. He will be attending the kickoff Gala event on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

Chair Clopton commented on her attendance of the Black Asian Pride event. It was attended by about 100 people and each table engaged in conversation about Asian and Black LGBTQI overlap and intersectionality. It was organized on the Department on the Status of Women, and HRC served as a co-sponsor.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Queen Vanessa** (remote) thanked Commissioner Emran for noting that June is National Gun Violence Awareness Month. She was not aware of this until now. She is founder of Born and Raised Survivors and Community Developers. She is launching on June 30 “Felonies is Not Your Friend” to line up with the Juvenile Closure of June 30. Want to raise awareness for youth who are at risk of getting in trouble. She asked the help of the HRC and Juvenile Probation to get some participation at this event.

**8. 1:14:35 ADJOURNMENT** Meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm.

Motion to Adjourn: 1st Commissioner Johnson, 2nd Commissioner Sweet

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