
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

City and County of San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
Draft Meeting Minutes
May 25, 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. 1:40 CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL OF COMMISSIONERS

Present: Karen Clopton, Ann Champion Shaw, Mark Kelleher, Jason Pellegrini, Michael Sweet, Joseph Sweiss, Irene Yee-Riley

Absent: Jayson Johnson, Leah Pimentel

Meeting was called to order with 7 Commissioners present

2. 3:19 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.

Ace Washington: Greeted the Commission.

Ariana (No last name): Ariana reported on their experience navigating homelessness, shelters, single resident occupancy housing, and living out of their car in San Francisco. They reported being sexually harassed to the shelter monitoring committee and said that the city and county government services and policies have failed to help them find stable housing.

3. 7:14 ADOPTION OF THE MAY 11, 2023 MEETING MINUTES (*Discussion and Possible Action Item*)

Review and anticipated adoption of minutes from the Commission’s May 11, 2023 meeting.

Public Comment

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment on this item.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT/ACTION

Motion to adopt May 11, 2023 Meeting minutes as submitted: 1st Vice Chair Reverend Shaw, 2nd Commissioner Yee Riley. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

4. 9:26 REVIEW OF TIMELINE FOR SUBMITTING THE SAN FRANCISCO AFRICAN AMERICAN REPARATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT *(Discussion Item)*

San Francisco Human Rights Commission staff and members of the African American Reparations Advisory committee will present the timeline for submitting input on final Reparations report recommendations, when the report will be submitted to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, and when the San Francisco Board of Supervisors Committee of the Whole meeting will be scheduled.

Presentation: Brittni Chicuata, Director, Economic Rights Division, San Francisco Human Rights Commission

Juell Stewart, Manager, Economic Rights Division, San Francisco Human Rights Commission

Public Comment

Brittni Chicuata, Director of the Economic Rights Division of the San Francisco Human Rights Commission manages the team supporting the African American Reparations Advisory Committee beginning in June 2021 and ending in June 2023. The 15 member advisory committee was tasked with developing a San Francisco Reparations program addressing the legacy of institutional city sanction harm inflicted upon Black communities in San Francisco and determine the scope of and eligibility for a city-wide Reparations program in order to serve qualifying Black residents who have been wronged and/or who continue to suffer from past harms. Name ongoing discriminatory local policies, address Anti-Black prejudice and inequities within government and private institutions, the public education system, criminal incarceration system, housing, workforce development, economic opportunities, transit access, access to health care, and food security. The report detailing final recommendations is due by June 30, 2023. Important dates in June:

June 2, 2023: Last day the committee will accept community and external recommendations.

June 5, 2023, 5:30pm: Special Meeting at 25 Van Ness Avenue, Room 610 (recorded in error during the meeting as City Hall, room 400).

June 12, 2023, 5:30pm: Regular Advisory Committee meeting to vote on final recommendations for the report.

June 30, 2023: Submit final report to the Human Rights Commission, the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor's office.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ace Washington, Linda Parker Pennington, Letta, Pete Terrance, CA Horton provided public comment on this item.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Commissioner Pellegrini: Asked when the report would be heard at the Board of Supervisors in a Committee of the Whole. Answer: September 19, 2023.

Chair Clopton: Directed staff to schedule either the July or August Commission meeting in community to review the African American Reparations Advisory Committee report recommendations, at either the George Davis Senior Center, Bay View Opera House, or new Southeast Community center.

Directed staff to draft a memorandum presenting the following recommendations to the committee, [Link to Memorandum](#).

Request of the Public Defender's office to present a comparative data analysis evaluating pay parity and hiring/caseload equity between different Legal Departments representing the City and County of San Francisco, specifically the Public Defenders, District Attorney, and City Attorney's offices. Ask for office of the Public Defender, Mano Raju, to prepare the comparison and include the Civil Service Commission

Funding to Establish a Black LGBTQI+ Center in the Castro – [link to recommendation submitted to the Mayor's Office in 2022-2023](#).

Edit the description of the process within the final report to reflect that San Francisco Reparations legislation is grounded in community activism. In response to the COVID pandemic, the MegaBlack SF group was formed in March 2020. The group conducted listening sessions involving hundreds of participants who identified priorities of San Francisco's Black community. One of those includes establishing a Reparations Advisory Committee to review local government policies that harmed the Black San Francisco community in the past and continue to cause harm to the Black community.

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. **40:35 SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION SUMMER INITIATIVES** (*Discussion Item*)

Commission staff will present on upcoming Summer program initiatives and activities.

- a. **Juneteenth 2023: Cathy Mulkey Meyer, San Francisco Human Rights Commission, Pia Harris, Community Engagement Director, San Francisco**
- b. **Opportunities For All: Sara Williams, Manager, Opportunities for All, San Francisco Human Rights Commission**
- c. **Everybody Reads Program: Dr. Sheryl Evans Davis, Executive Director, San Francisco Human Rights Commission.**
Jessica Campos, Community Engagement and Partnership, Office of Racial Equity, San Francisco Human Rights Commission

Public Comment

Cathy Mulkey Meyer and Josh Harrison presented information about the major Juneteenth events directly funded by the Dream Keeper initiative:

June 10, 2023, 11:00am to 2:00pm -Juneteenth at the Waterfront, Pier 1 Port of San Francisco,
June 10, 2023, 11:00am to 1:00pm – Juneteenth Parade on Market Streets, starts at Spear and Market and ends at Civic Center.

June 16, 2023, Noon to 2:00pm – Mayor London N. Breed’s Juneteenth Weekend Kick Off Celebration at City Hall

June 16, 2023, 5:00pm 10:00pm - BlackCoeur at the Westfield Center Rotunda.

June 16, 2023, 7:00pm – SF Black Wallstreet “Cut the Check” Gala at the Hybernia Bank building.

June 17, 2023, 11:00am – 6:00pm, Fillmore District Juneteenth Freedom Celebration.

June 18, 2023, 11:00pm – 6:00pm, Bayview District Juneteenth at the Gillman Playground.

Director Sheryl Davis discussed two initiatives.

Opportunities for All youth summer workforce program. New staff have been hired and are working on placing youth in jobs. The Commissioners are invited to attend the Summer program launch at the Chase Center or July 6th.

Everybody Reads. Director Davis and San Francisco Public Librarian Christy Estrovitz curated and distributed 1000 summer literacy kits and lessons to community based organizations hosting youth summer programming. Earlier in the Day on May 25th, the Director convened a training session at the San Francisco Main Library attended by 40 providers.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ace Washington, discussed the Fillmore District historical role in Juneteenth. Leo Sosa, Executive Director of Dev Mission about the partnership with Opportunities For All. C Horton discussed the history of Juneteenth and need for celebrations.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT

There was no commission comment on this item.

Quorum was lost at 1:00:02

6. 40:35 THE UNITY ROAD TRIP (Discussion Item)

RAMS Executive Director Presents on the UNITY Road Trip

Presentation: JayVon Muhammad, President and CEO, RAMS, Inc.

Public Comment

Director Muhammad presented on the RAMS Unity Road Trip program, an incredibly successful cross cultural education program. High School age Asian/Pacific Islander and Black/African American teen girls are invited to participate. They work on projects together addressing racism, anti-Blackness, and other concerns and challenges they are facing. They prepare for the road trip across the United States, visiting famous historical sites, and building life long relationships with each other. Cities visited: Chicago, Detroit, New York, Philadelphia, Washington DC, North Carolina, Atlanta, Montgomery, New Orleans, Lake Charles, Tulsa, and ending in Las Vegas.

PUBLIC COMMENT

C Horton praised the efforts of this type of programming

COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Irene Yee Riley talked about efforts to duplicate this type of programming for young people and older adults through the Campaign for Solidarity and Stand Together SF Work. There was no commission comment on this item.

7. 1:15:58 COMMISSIONER ACTIVITIES IN THE COMMUNITY (Discussion Item)

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

Public Comment

Commissioner Yee Riley attended the APA Heritage Foundation award ceremony on the May 3, 2023. The community celebration of Asian American Pacific Islander Month at the Commonwealth Club, the Human Rights Commission cosponsored the event. Attended the May 8, 2023 African American Reparations Advisory Committee meeting. May 23, 2023 the reception for Steph Curry's mother, author Sonya Curry, who launched her book "Fierce Love."

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment on this item.

8. 1:18:30 ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 6:22 pm.

Motion to Adjourn: 1st Commissioner Pellegrini, 2nd Commissioner Kelleher

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