



**SPECIAL MEETING  
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION  
Tuesday, November 10, 2020  
3:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS**

Nat Nehdar, Chair, District 5  
Charlotte Lacey, Vice-Chair, District 7  
Brandon Lamar, Mayor  
Brenda Morales, District 1  
Theresa Robinett, District 2  
Rene Gonzalez, District 3  
Kevork Keushkerian, District 4  
Sandy Greenstein, District 6  
Hamed Shirmohammadi, At Large

**STAFF**

LaWayne Williams, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Supervisor  
Tamer Sabha, Recording Secretary

Human Relations Commission meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month.

Agendas and related documents are available for public review on the City website at:  
<https://www.cityofpasadena.net/commissions/human-relations-commission/>

*To request meeting materials in alternative formats or other disability-related modifications or accommodations necessary to facilitate meeting participation, please contact the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department as soon as possible at (626) 744-7295 or [tsabha@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:tsabha@cityofpasadena.net). Providing at least 72-hour advance notice will help ensure availability.*

*Language translation services may also be requested with 72-hour advance notice by calling (626) 744-7295 or [tsabha@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:tsabha@cityofpasadena.net). Habrá servicio de interpretación disponible para éstas juntas llamando (626) 744-7295.*

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 ISSUED BY GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM ON MARCH 17, 2020, THE FOLLOWING MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE **SOLELY BY TELECONFERENCE/VIDEOCONFERENCE**.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY PARTICIPATE ELECTRONICALLY IN THE OPEN SESSION PORTION OF THE MEETING.

ACCESS TO THE MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:

**Video Conference:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82404179031>

**OR**

**Phone:** 1 (669) 900-6833 - Webinar ID: 824 0417 9031

## **PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS**

If you wish to provide comment, you may do so as follows:

**1. ADVANCE CORRESPONDENCE, TO BECOME PART OF THE RECORD:**

Submit public comment of any length to [tsabha@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:tsabha@cityofpasadena.net) prior to the meeting day. Please be aware that, while these comments will be provided to the members of the body and will become part of the meeting record, they will not be read aloud.

**2. COMMENTS TO BE READ ALOUD AT THE MEETING:**

Submit public comment of up to 200 words regarding items on the agenda to: <https://www.cityofpasadena.net/commissions/public-comment/>. The body reserves the right to summarize comments if necessary for the orderly and timely flow of the meeting. All comments in their entirety will become part of the meeting record.

Public comments will be limited to matters on this agenda.

If you need a reasonable modification or accommodation pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act because you are unable to participate electronically as set forth above, please contact the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department as soon as possible at (626) 744-7295 or [tsabha@cityofpasadena.net](mailto:tsabha@cityofpasadena.net).



**AGENDA  
SPECIAL MEETING  
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION  
Tuesday, November 10, 2020  
3:00 P.M.**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL**
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - OCTOBER 6, 2020\*
- 3. NEW BUSINESS**  
**INFORMATION ITEMS**
  - DISCUSS HOLDING A PUBLIC FORUM IN 2021 ON ISSUES THAT AFFECT HUMAN RELATIONS IN THE CITY OF PASADENA
  - DISCUSS PROGRAM FORMAT FOR THE REKINDLING THE LIGHT OF PEACE EVENT
  - DISCUSS THE PROCESS FOR MODIFICATION OF THE COMMISSION RULES AND REGULATIONS AND P.M.C. CHAPTER 2.85 – STAFF (LAWAYNE WILLIAMS)\*
- 4. OLD BUSINESS**  
**ACTION ITEM**
  - COMMISSION WORK PLAN UPDATES\*
- 5. COMMENTS AND UPDATES**
  - COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS
  - STAFF COMMENTS
- 6. SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS**
- 7. ADJOURNMENT**

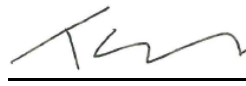
\*Attachment

Note to Public: Public comment is limited to items on this special meeting agenda and will be heard at the time the item is considered.

POSTING STATEMENT: I HEREBY CERTIFY that this Agenda, in its entirety was posted on the City Council Chamber Bulletin Board S249, and the bulletin board in the rotunda area at City Hall, 100 North Garfield Avenue on or before the 5<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020, by 5:30 p.m. The agenda may be viewed at the City's website at: [www.cityofpasadena.net/commissions/human-relations-commission](http://www.cityofpasadena.net/commissions/human-relations-commission).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nat Nehdar', written over a horizontal line.

Nat Nehdar, Chair  
Human Relations Commission

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tamer Sabha', written over a horizontal line.

Tamer Sabha, Recording Secretary



**\*DRAFT MINUTES\***

**CITY OF PASADENA  
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION  
SPECIAL MEETING  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2020  
3:00 PM**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Rene Gonzalez, Sandy Greenstein, Charlotte Lacey, Brandon Lamar, Nat Nehdar, Theresa Robinett, Hamed Shirmohammadi

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:** Brenda Morales, Kevork Keushkerian

**STAFF PRESENT:** Lola Osborne, LaWayne Williams, Tamer Sabha

**1. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL**

Chair Nehdar called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM. Staff (Sabha) called the roll and a quorum was established for the Commission.

**2. WELCOME**

- **WELCOME TO NEW COMMISSIONER HAMED SHIRMOHAMMDI (AT LARGE)**  
The Commission welcomed Hamed Shirmohammadi, the newest Commissioner (At Large), who shared his background and experience.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

After review, it was moved (Greenstein) and seconded (Gonzalez) to approve the minutes of the September 1, 2020 meeting amended as stated below. (Motion unanimously carried)

- **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FINAL COMMISSION WORK PLAN FOR FY 2020-2021**  
Chair Nehdar appointed Commissioners Nehdar, Lacey, and Gonzalez to the Rekindling the Light of Peace ad hoc committee

<b>COMMISSIONER</b>	<b>IN FAVOR</b>
Nehdar	X
Lacey	X
Lamar	X
Robinett	X
Gonzalez	X
Greenstein	X
Shirmohammadi	X

#### **4. NEW BUSINESS**

- **APPOINT PARLIAMENTARIAN FOR FY 2020-2021**

Chair Nehdar appointed Commissioner Greenstein to serve as Parliamentarian for FY 2020-2021.

- **COMMISSION WORK PLAN UPDATES**

The Commission discussed and provided updates to the work plan for FY 2020-2021.

Commissioner Greenstein updated the Commission in that the ad hoc committee regarding social justice meeting met on Tuesday, September 15 and discussed:

- Developments with the Pasadena Community Police Oversight Commission.
- Hosting a Zoom job and resource fair for formerly incarcerated residents.
- Holding a forum to bridge the gap between the various sections in Pasadena.
- Community Bill of Rights released by the NAACP and NDLO (National Day Laborer Organization Network) that was released in June 2020.
- The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department Commission work plans for FY 2020-2021 to see how they relate to the work of the Human Relations Commission.

#### **5. OLD BUSINESS**

- **UPDATE FROM THE AD HOC COMMITTEE REGARDING SOCIAL JUSTICE MEETING**

Commissioner Greenstein updated the Commission in that the ad hoc committee met on Tuesday, September 15 and discussed:

- Developments with the Pasadena Community Police Oversight Commission.
- Hosting a Zoom job and resource fair for formerly incarcerated residents.
- Holding a forum to bridge the gap between the various sections in Pasadena.
- Community Bill of Rights released by the NAACP and NDLO (National Day Laborer Organization Network) that was released in June 2020.
- The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department Commission work plans for FY 2020-2021 to see how they relate to the work of the Human Relations Commission.

The Commission requested that staff provide information on how money for the 2020 ROSE Program is planning to be used.

Chair Nehdar dissolved the ad hoc committee regarding the social justice meeting and added the item into work plan objective #3.

- **REPORT FROM AD HOC COMMITTEE ON REKINDLING THE LIGHT OF PEACE**

Chair Nehdar updated the Commission that the Rekindling the Light of Peace ad hoc committee decided and recommended holding the Rekindling the Light of Peace event through Zoom on Saturday, January 9, 2021 from 10:00am-11:30am.

## **6. COMMENTS AND UPDATES**

- **COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

None

- **STAFF COMMENTS**

Staff (Osborne) informed the Commission that a request has been sent to the City Attorney's office attend a future meeting and provide an overview of the Commission's roles and responsibilities.

Staff (Williams) provided the following comments:

- Shared an update from the City of Pasadena and LA County regarding COVID-19;
- Voting boxes have been installed throughout the City of Pasadena;
- Jackie Robinson Community Center is in the process of having their HVAC system overhauled and is scheduled to be completed in December 2020;
- Continuing to work with the Great Plates Delivered program, local food pantries, and the YWCA to provide meals to the community; and
- The ROSE program has been extended through fiscal year 2021.

## **7. SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS**

- Presentation from the City Attorney's office on Commission roles and responsibilities
- Discuss holding a public forum in 2021 on issues that affect human relations in the City of Pasadena

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved (Lacey) and seconded (Lamar) to adjourn the special meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 3:57 PM.

**2.85.070 Meetings—Records.**

A. The commission shall meet at least once a month. All its meetings shall be held in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and shall be open to the public except as provided by law. Special meetings may be called by the chair or a majority of the commission.

B. A quorum shall be a majority of the commission seats filled by the city council. A seat is deemed to be filled after a nominee has been sworn in by the city clerk. No action of the commission shall be valid without the affirmative vote of at least 3 members.

C. The commission shall keep a record, which shall be available for public inspection, of all of its resolutions, proceedings, and other actions. (Ord. 6820 §§ 20, 45 (part), 2000; Ord. 6675 § 1 (part), 1996; Ord. 6229 § 2 (part), 1987)

**2.85.080 Rules and regulations.**

The commission shall adopt and amend, by the affirmative vote of 5 members, rules and regulations for the conduct of the commission's business consistent with this chapter. Such rules and regulations shall be submitted to the city council and shall not become effective until approved and ordered filed by the council. (Ord. 6820 § 21, 2000; Ord. 6229 § 2 (part), 1987)

**2.85.090 Annual report.**

The commission shall submit an annual report and workplan to the city council no later than September 1st of each year. Attendance records of members shall be included as part of the annual report. (Ord. 6930 § 9, 2003; Ord. 6820 § 45 (part), 2000; Ord. 6229 § 2 (part), 1987)

**2.85.100 Disclosure requirements.**

Members of the commission shall not be required to file annual statements of economic interest pursuant to the city's conflict of interest code. (Ord. 6229 § 2 (part), 1987)

**2.85.110 Purpose and functions.**

A. The purpose of this commission is to aid the city in achieving better human relations in city gov-

ernment, and to provide assistance to private persons and groups in promoting good will and better relations among all people.

B. The purpose of this commission is to aid the city in achieving better human relations in city government, and to provide assistance to private persons and groups in promoting good will and better relations among all people.

C. The commission shall:

1. Formulate ideas and suggest programs in the areas of research and education for the purpose of lessening racial and religious prejudice and of fostering attitudes among the various groups within its jurisdiction which lead to civic peace and intergroup understanding;

2. Develop and participate in plans and programs designed to promote the full acceptance of all citizens in the community in all aspects of community life, without regard to race, religion, national origin, age, sex or a minority affiliation;

3. Cooperate with and assist in coordinating on a city-wide basis the work of those community agencies engaged in fostering mutual understanding and respect among all racial, religious and cultural groups in the city, or in attempting to discourage discriminatory practices against any such group or any of its members;

4. Cooperate with the city manager and, through that office, with the various city departments in identifying and ameliorating human relations problems with which the commission may be concerned;

5. From time to time recommend measures, including legislation, to the city council which will serve to improve human relations within the city;

6. Provide a forum where human relations problems may be presented and discussed and their implications evaluated with the understanding that if such problems require corrective action the commission will transmit recommendations thereon to the city council. Human relations problems include claims of abridgements of equal opportunity in employment, housing and education because of race, religion, national origin, age, sex or a minority affiliation and intergroup conflicts, based upon any of these factors,



ARTICLE X

AMENDMENT OF RULES

SECTION 1. These rules may be amended at any regular meeting of the commission by the affirmative vote of six members, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous meeting. Proposed amendments must be submitted to the city council for final approval.

## CITY OF PASADENA HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

### WORK PLAN: 08/01/2020-06/30/2021

#### **MISSION** (as stated in Charter/Ordinance):

The purpose of the Human Relations Commission is to aid the city in achieving better human relations in city government, and to provide assistance to private persons and groups in promoting good will and better relations among all people. The Human Relations Commission is an advisory body.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

<b>1.</b>	<p>To advise City Council on Human Relations issues of public, local and national concerns with regular updates to provide an opportunity to review and understand issues for the decision making process.</p> <hr/> <p><b>Work Plan Updates:</b></p> <p>August 2020: The Commission established a draft of the FY20-21 work plan.</p> <p>September 2020: The Commission approved the work plan for FY 20-21.</p> <p>October 2020: No update was provided.</p>
<b>2.</b>	<p>To present public forums, panels, and programs on issues that affect human relations in the City of Pasadena.</p> <p>Nehdar, Lacey, Lamar, Gonzalez</p> <p>Rekindling the Light of Peace ad hoc: Lacey (Lead), Nehdar, Gonzalez, Shirmohammadi</p> <p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rekindling the Light of Peace</li><li>• Multimedia High School Essay Contest</li><li>• Human Relations Commission Annual Awards Ceremony</li><li>• Investigate alternatives to in-person forums, panels, and programs</li></ul>

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**Work Plan Updates:**

August 2020: The Commission established a draft of the FY20-21 work plan.

September 2020:

- Chair Nehdar appointed Commissioners Nehdar, Lacey, Greenstein, and Gonzalez to the Rekindling the Light of Peace ad hoc committee.
- Chair Nehdar appointed Commissioners Greenstein (lead), Lamar, Nehdar, and Robinett to an ad hoc committee to discuss meeting regarding social justice.

October 2020: The ad hoc committee decided and approved holding the Rekindling the Light of Peace event through Zoom on Saturday, January 9, 2021.

- 3.** To identify and bring attention to collaborations existing within the City of Pasadena that provide assistance to private persons and groups, and/or promote goodwill and better relations among all people.

Greenstein (Lead), Robinett, Lamar, Morales

Action Items:

- Assessment of local collaborations
  - Pasadena Ministerial Alliance
  - Nonprofit social service organizations
- Social justice meeting

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**Work Plan Updates:**

August 2020: The Commission established a draft of the FY20-21 work plan.

September 2020: Commission ad hoc will identify specific social organizations to discuss at next meeting.

October 2020:

- Chair Nehdar dissolved the ad hoc committee regarding the social justice meeting and added the item into work plan objective #3.
- Commissioner Greenstein updated the Commission in that the ad hoc committee met on Tuesday, September 15 and discussed:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Developments with the Pasadena Community Police Oversight Commission.</li><li>• Hosting a Zoom job and resource fair for formerly incarcerated residents.</li><li>• Holding a forum to bridge the gap between the various sections in Pasadena.</li><li>• Community Bill of Rights released by the NAACP and NDLO (National Day Laborer Organization Network) that was released in June 2020.</li><li>• The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department Commission work plans for FY 2020-2021 to see how they relate to the work of the Human Relations Commission.</li></ul>
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NOTE: Objectives are subject to change with approval by the Commission.