



**Regular Meeting
Human Relations Commission
Tuesday, September 7, 2021
6:30 P.M.**

Members

Brandon Lamar, Chair, Mayor
Sandy Greenstein, Vice-Chair, District 6
Wilhelmina Robertson, District 1
Theresa Robinett, District 2
Rene H. Gonzalez, District 3
Kevork Keushkerian, District 4
Katie Young, District 5
Hamed Shirmohammadi, At Large
Vacant, District 7

Staff

Alexis Taylor, Program Coordinator I
Tamer Sabha, Recording Secretary

Meeting Information

Human Relations Commission meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of each month

Agendas and related documents are available for public review on the City website at:
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. Providing at least 72-hour advance notice will help ensure availability.

Language translation services may also be requested with 72-hour advance notice by at (626) 744-7295 or 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/88133642937>

OR

Phone: 1 (669) 900-6833 – Webinar ID: 881 3364 2937

Public Comment Instructions

If you wish to provide comments, 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 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: 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.

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.



Agenda
Regular Meeting
Human Relations Commission
Tuesday, September 7, 2021
6:30 P.M.

1. **Call to order**
2. **Roll call**
3. **Public comments**
4. **Approval of minutes**
 - August 3, 2021*
5. **New business**
 - Information Items**
 - Discussion regarding requesting a presentation from the Pasadena Martin Luther King Community Coalition about their annual Martin Luther King Jr. Essay and Art Contest
 - Discussion regarding the proposed Pasadenans Empowering Parent Participation in Education Governance (PEPPEG) initiative to allow all parents of all Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) children, including non-citizen parents, to vote in PUSD School Board elections
6. **Old business**
 - Action Item**
 - Commission work plan updates and discussion*
7. **Reports/comments from the Chair**
8. **Comments from Commissioners**
9. **Staff comments**
10. **Upcoming meeting agenda items**
11. **Adjournment**

*Attachments

Posting statement: I hereby certify that this Agenda, in its entirety was posted on the City Council Chamber Board S249, and the bulletin board in the rotunda area at City Hall, 100 North Garfield Avenue on or before the 2nd day of September 2021, by 5:30 p.m. The agenda may be viewed at the City's website at www.cityofpasadena.net/commissions/human-relations-commission/.



Brandon Lamar, Chair
Human Relations Commission



Tamer Sabha, Recording Secretary



Draft Minutes

**Regular Meeting
Human Relations Commission
Tuesday, August 3, 2021
6:30 P.M.**

Commissioners Present: Rene Gonzalez (joined at 6:36 PM), Sandy Greenstein, Kevork Keushkerian, Brandon Lamar, Wilhelmina Robertson, Theresa Robinett, Katie Young

Commissioners Absent: Hamed Shirmohammadi (excused)

Staff Present: LaWayne Williams, Alexis Taylor, Tamer Sabha, Lola Osborne

1. Call to Order

Chair Lamar called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

2. Roll call

Staff (Sabha) called the roll and a quorum was established for the Commission.

3. Public comments

None

4. Approval of minutes

After review, it was moved (Greenstein) and seconded (Robertson) to approve the Minutes of the July 6, 2021 regular meeting. (Motion carried)

In Favor: Greenstein, Robertson, Robinett, Keushkerian, Young

Abstain: Lamar

5. New Business

- **Review and approval of an update to the Pasadena Municipal Code Chapter 2.85, Human Relations Commission, to remove functions related to the Police Department and law enforcement agencies, as these functions are being absorbed by the Community Police Oversight Commission**

After discussion, it was moved (Greenstein) and seconded (Robertson) to approve the update to the Pasadena Municipal Code Chapter 2.85 (Human Relations Commission) to remove functions related to the Police Department and law enforcement agencies. (Motion unanimously carried)

In Favor: Lamar, Greenstein, Robertson, Robinett, Gonzalez, Keushkerian, Young

- **Review and approval of an update to the Human Relations Commission Rules and Regulations to remove functions related to the Police Department as these functions are being absorbed by the Community Police Oversight Commission**

After discussion, it was moved (Keushkerian) and seconded (Young) to approve the update to the Human Relations Commission Rules and Regulations to remove functions related to the Police Department and law enforcement agencies. (Motion unanimously carried)

In Favor: Lamar, Greenstein, Robertson, Robinett, Gonzalez, Keushkerian, Young

- **Presentation regarding Pasadena Water and Power's approach to organizing their annual "Water is Life" Student Art Contest – Renae Plave (Events and Education Coordinator, Pasadena Water and Power)**

The Commission received a presentation from Pasadena Water and Power Department staff, Renae Plave, regarding the planning process and application of best practices for their annual "Water is Life" Student Art Contest. Questions from the Commission followed.

- **Discussion of new formatting for the Multimedia High School contest**
The Commission discussed ways to change the format of the Multimedia High School contest with the goals of conducting outreach, collaborating with local organizations, and receiving more submissions.

6. Old business

- **Review and approval of final Human Relations Commission Work Plan FY 2021-2022**

After discussion, it was moved (Keushkerian) and seconded (Robinett) to approve the Human Relations Commission work plan for FY 2021-2022. (Motion unanimously carried)

In Favor: Lamar, Greenstein, Robertson, Robinett, Gonzalez, Keushkerian, Young

7. Reports/comments from the Chair

None

8. Comments from Commissioners

Vice-Chair Greenstein suggested scheduling a presentation from the MLK Community Coalition at the September meeting.

Commissioner Robertson provided the following comments:

- Asked staff about the process for adding speakers to the Commission's presentation calendar; and

- Provided an update that she contacted Councilmember Hampton after the July meeting to share what the Commission is working on in FY 2021-2022 and recommended other Commissioners do the same.

Commissioner Gonzalez requested adding a future agenda item to discuss Pasadenans Empowering Parent Participation in Education Governance's (PEPPEG) goal to expand voting rights for the parents of all PUSD students.

Staff (Williams) commented that staff has contacted the City Attorney's and City Clerk's offices to seek guidance regarding the PEPPEG initiative, and identifying the option(s) available to the Commission to respond to the request.

Commissioner Keushkerian asked if meeting minutes are sent to City Councilmembers.

Staff (Williams) clarified that Commission meeting minutes are available to the City Council.

9. Staff Comments

Staff (Taylor) provided the following comments:

- Shared that approximately 100 Pasadena youth have been placed in internships in various city departments as part of the ROSE program;
- Staff is currently processing contracts for the Expanded ROSE program to fund external community based organizations that fund an array of scholarships and internships for Pasadena youth;
- Upcoming internal events: Coffee with Community Services (an open house for community members that will offer free on-the-spot consultations for important services), Latino Heritage Parade, Black History Parade and Festival, Art Night; additional updates for planning will be provided at the next meeting;
- The resumption of in-person Commission meetings was moved to one month after the public is able to attend City Council meetings;
- Now that the update to the Pasadena Municipal Code Chapter 2.85 (Human Relations Commission) has been approved, the Commission's webpage will be updated as requested by the Commission; and
- Encouraged ad hoc committees to meet in-between monthly Commission meetings to discuss work plan objectives.

Staff (Osborne) asked the Commission if it would be helpful to continue receiving other PRCS Commission's work plans. Staff (Sabha) will continue to send the work plans from other PRCS Commissions.

10. Upcoming meeting agenda items

- Discussion regarding a presentation from MLK Community Coalition regarding their annual essay contest
- Discussion regarding a presentation from Brett Shears from PEPPEG to clarify questions from the Commission
- Discussion of requesting an intern from the ROSE program to work on work plan objectives

- Continued discussion of the Multimedia High School Contest

11. Adjournment

It was moved (Keushkerian) and seconded (Young) to adjourn the regular meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 PM.

**City of Pasadena Human Relations Commission
Work Plan: 07/01/2021 – 06/30/2022**

Mission:

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.

FY 2021-2022 Objectives:

Objective #1 – Advise and Engage City Council

Objective #2 – Public Forums

Objective #3 – Collaborations

Objective #1 – Advise and Engage City Council

To advise and engage 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.

Commissioners: Robertson, Greenstein, Young

Action Items:

- Encourage City Councilmembers to enhance their online presence in order to foster diverse community relationships and increase interpersonal communication with residents.
- Engage youth interns to perform social media analyses of community connectedness and responsiveness to Councilmembers' content in order to assess local issues.
- Inform, on a monthly basis, Councilmembers of HRC meeting action items and local needs in order to report discussion outcomes during commission meetings.
- Design, solicit, and evaluate a Human Relations Commission Community Survey; concurrently remove the existing published survey from the Commission's webpage.
- Submit a request to the Historic Preservation Commission staff to determine if their policies include historical accuracy on plaques.
- Render a recommendation regarding the Mill's Place plaque:
 - Staff to begin the process to create a new plaque solely dedicated to acknowledging this event,
 - Host a public event to educate the public about the atrocious events from 1885, or
 - Work with City staff to initiate a press release to share with the Pasadena community.
- Attend District meetings to share the progress of Commission-related activities as needed.

Work Plan Updates:

July 2021:

- Staff removed the link to the existing Human Relations Commission Community Survey from the Commission's webpage.

August 2021:

- Commissioner Robertson provided an update that she contacted Councilmember Hampton after the meeting in July to share what the Commission is working on in FY 2021-2022.

Objective #2 – Public Forums

To present public forums, panels, and programs on issues that affect human relations in the City of Pasadena.

Commissioners: Lamar, Robertson, Robinett

Action Items:

- Support programs that highlight the principles of Martin Luther King Jr.
- Sponsor a Multimedia High School Contest.
- Sponsor Human Relations Commission Annual Awards Ceremony.
- Investigate alternatives to in-person forums, panels, and programs.

Work Plan Updates:

July 2021:

- The Commission worked on defining action items for the public forums work plan objective.

August 2021:

- The Commission received a presentation from Pasadena Water and Power about the planning process and best practices for their annual “Water is Life” Student Art Contest before discussing ways to change the format for the Multimedia High School Contest, in an effort to conduct outreach, collaborate with local organizations, and receive more submissions.

Objective #3 – Collaborations

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.

Commissioners: Young, Greenstein, Robinett

Action Items:

- Identify local collaborations that support the Human Relations Commission's objectives.
- Create a presentation calendar for FY 2021-2022 to better engage community organizations towards achieving Human Relations Commission action items.

Work Plan Updates:

July 2021:

- The Commission worked on defining action items for the Collaborations work plan objective.

August 2021:

- The Commission voted to approve the work plan for FY 2021-2022.

Human Relations Commission
Draft Presentation Calendar FY 2021-2022
(updated 07/12/21)

To be scheduled:

- Cultural Signage Project for 10 W. Walnut (Parsons Project) – Mark Workman, LPC West (November or December 2021)

August 2021:

- Presentation regarding Pasadena Water and Power’s approach to organizing their annual “Water is Life” Student Art Contest – Renae Plave (Events and Education Coordinator, Pasadena Water and Power)

September 2021:

October 2021:

November 2021:

December 2021:

January 2022:

February 2022:

March 2022:

April 2022:

May 2022:

June 2022: Annual Meeting