



City of Mountain View

Minutes

Human Relations Commission

Thursday, May 21, 2020

5:30 PM Video Conference with No Physical Meeting Location

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sylvester called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

- Present** 6 - Vice Chair Linda Batton, Commissioner Annette Lin, Commissioner Annette Lin, Commissioner Fernando Romero, Chair IdaRose Sylvester, and Commissioner Julie Solomon
- Absent** 1 - Commissioner Kevin Ball

3. MINUTES APPROVAL

None.

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Speaking from the floor, expressions of concern, support, and recommendations were received from:

Vanessa Birrueta

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1 **Immigrant Resources Needs and Assets Assessment Subcommittee**

Commissioners Solomon, Romero, and Vice Chair Batton provided an oral update. The subcommittee has completed the evaluation of the survey results. A presentation with a summary of key findings will be presented to the Commission at its June meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 **Update on COVID-19 Emergency Response and Commission Input Regarding Next Steps for Community Resiliency**

Item 6.1 was taken out of agenda order.

Mayor Abe-Koga provided an overview on the City of Mountain View's COVID-19 response and the development of a COVID-19 Resiliency Recovery Plan.

The Mayor asked the Commission to provide feedback on the following two questions: 1) What challenges and opportunities do you see for our community and 2) Where could our collective efforts be focused in the months and years ahead?

Commissioners provided the following feedback:

Challenges:

Availability of mental health services for low income groups and recent immigrants
Concern about vehicle dwellers who can't participate in programs because of undocumented status and the public charge rule
Concern about lack of availability of mental health beds in Santa Clara County hospitals
Concern that low to middle income families can't qualify for support programs. What are the available programs for that group?
Look at other sources of help for low-income renters, families, and landlords. Limited resources with unlimited needs.
Food insecurity, education gap and digital divide, financial impacts on working/middle class women, immigrants, small businesses, seniors, and people with disabilities.
Racism in the community.
The effects of isolation on people's mental health
Lack of civil conversations
Concern with City stepping away from sustainability commitments

Opportunities:

Increased philanthropy, volunteerism, increased teleworking/telecommuting, opportunity to envision a new community, ending the digital divide, redeploy workers to serve as contact tracers.

Speaking from the floor, expressions of concern, support, and recommendations were received from:

Marsha Deslauriers, Executive Director, CHAC

6.2

Development of the HRC Work Plan for FY 2020-21

The Commission reviewed the work plan status for Fiscal Year 2019-20, and engaged in a discussion with staff about potential new projects and tasks for the Fiscal Year 2020-21 work plan. Topics include:

Proposed Carry-over Items from FY 2019-20:

ADA Subcommittee
Immigrant Resources and Need Assessment Subcommittee
Safe Parking Subcommittee
Civility Roundtable on Unconscious Bias

Proposed New Item for FY 2020-21:

Serve as a resource for COVID-19 community needs

Speaking from the floor, expressions of concern, support, and recommendations were received from:

Bruce England

7. COMMISSION/STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS, UPDATES, REQUESTS, AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Solomon announced that grant funds of \$500 is available for immigrants impacted by COVID-19 through the Human Agenda Solo Fund.

Commissioner Solomon shared that she is assisting the Multilingual Community Outreach Program (MCOP) with an evaluation of the Spanish-language Leadership Academy.

Chair Sylvester announced that there are volunteering opportunities available with the MOVE Safe Parking program, and that community member who wish to support seniors can do so through the Mountain View Heart 2 Heart program administered by the Community Services Agency.

8. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:03 p.m., Chair Sylvester adjourned the meeting to the regular meeting of the Human Relations Commission to be held on Thursday, June 4, 2020, via video conference.