



**MINUTES**  
**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE**  
**HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION**  
**Wednesday, July 13, 7:00 p.m.**  
**El Cerrito City Hall**  
10890 San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito

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**This Meeting Place is Wheelchair Accessible**

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**Roll Call 7:06 p.m. – Commissioners Present: Aga, Edwards, Glueck, Hunter-Parisi, Pardue-Okimoto.**  
**Commissioners Absent: Hughes.**

- 1. Minutes:** Approval of prior months pending.
- 2. Oral Communications from the Public:** None.
- 3. Staff, Council Liaison and Commission Announcements and Reports:** Staff Interim Chief of Police Paul Keith reports City Council approved the budget and the Garden Club gave a presentation at the last Council meeting. Next Council meeting will include agenda item about the library, and also discussion on marijuana dispensary. Chief Keith reported on Police Department activity in May and June. August 2nd is National Night out, about 20 neighborhoods signed up. City personnel will go at least to 25 of the groups and however more they can. Commissioner Aga asked for update on council discussion of rent control. Chief Keith doesn't know if it's on the Council's radar as agenda item. Commissioner Aga will gather some more information from other local towns and put a proposal together for Council consideration. Chief Keith shared a bit about contemporary policing standards and how California, and the Bay Area in particular, is innovating and influencing best practices, for example understanding implicit bias.
- 4. Student Commissioner:** A high school student (also Key Club President) has expressed interest in applying to the HRC. Commissioner Glueck encouraged her to come to a meeting. Commissioner Pardue-Okimoto also enjoyed working with her at Loving Day event.
- 5. Loving Day 6/12/2016 (Inaugural Event for El Cerrito):** Commissioners Pardue-Okimoto and Glueck estimate several hundred people, including about 90 kids (received rainbow flags). We learned a lot, will organize a bit differently next year, for example do more outreach to local media and get the word out even more. We did make the front page of "The Journal" and also other coverage of the day. The Loving Day quilt was great last minute contribution by a neighbor/group. We will want to reconcile how we did in terms of budget and for example, whether the food truck made their minimums, etc. Books that were in the reading corner are going to be donated to the library. Photos @ <http://www.el-cerrito.org/gallery.aspx?pid=1818> On youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-0giOLHS3T0>. We are wondering if there's a way to have a viewing of the new Loving Day movie sometime at the Rialto ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loving\\_\(2016\\_film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loving_(2016_film))).
- 6. Tolerance Subcommittee:** Commissioners Hunter-Parisi and Edwards gave update on subcommittee progress, including summary of the meeting with "Cracking the Codes" Ginny Z

Berson Director of Outreach World Trust Educational Services, [ginny@world-trust.org](mailto:ginny@world-trust.org) 510-842-8028, [www.world-trust.org](http://www.world-trust.org). Chief Keith and Commissioner Edwards updated everyone on initial conversation with “Not in Our Town.” Paul A. Di Lella, Esq., Director of Law Enforcement Relations, [pdilella@theworkinggroup.org](mailto:pdilella@theworkinggroup.org), 510-268-9675 - x313. It seems each organization has something to offer. World Trust has ability to provide moderators to help guide discussions and facilitate communities delving into the issues and factors. Their services are fee-based. The 2.5 hour experience is about \$4K but negotiable given no travel involved. There are other options, lesser cost. As an aside, from Ginny we also learned about her neighbors in Oakland coming together to form <http://www.neighborsforracialjustice.org/> Other resources Ginny shared: <https://www.racialequitytools.org> and <https://multco.us/diversity-equity/equity-and-empowerment-lens>.

On the other hand, NOIT provides “off the shelf” resources (for example questions, etc.) with minimal support, free to use as we like. The next step may be a community screening of one of the NOIT movies with a panel of community leaders, possibly with expertise a professor (psychology? sociology?), high school teacher, issues of race, police department, possibly the Sikh temple in El Sobrante, local Church Pastor, NAACP, and the like. “Waking in Oak Creek” (<https://www.niot.org/niot-video/trailer-waking-oak-creek>) is one movie recommended for starting the conversation. Later on, with a budget (possibly in combination with training budgets for City staff, Interim Chief would be interested in sending officers), we would consider “Cracking the Codes.” Commissioner Pardue-Okimoto knows sociology professor and also someone that is a Sikh leader (from Democratic Central Committee). Commissioner Glueck also knows some psychologists, perhaps someone that has specialist in that area, as does Commissioner Aga. **Motion by COMMISSIONER, seconded by COMMISSIONER**, to start planning a community event to start a deeper discussion and shared conversation about improving racial relations in our town. The subcommittee will continue working on it (access to the Rialto, or possibly CCCT, who to invite, reaching out to Crime Prevention Committee, etc.). Unanimously approved.

**7. Subcommittee and Commissioner Update Reports** Tabled for future meeting. No update.

**8. Adjournment: 8:35 p.m.**

#### COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION

To request a meeting agenda in large print, Braille or MP3 file, or to request a sign language interpreter for the meeting, please call Karen Pinkos, Staff Liaison at (510) 215-4302 (voice) at least FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING to ensure availability.

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