



DRAFT MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Interim Staff Liaison

Maya Williams | 510-215-4318

mwilliams@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

VIA TELECONFERENCE

CONVENE SPECIAL MEETING Chair Hunter Parisi called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

1. **ROLL CALL – Present:** Chair Margo Hunter Parisi, Buddy Akacić, Mina Wilson, Lee Kariuki, Walter Williams. Alice Morris arrived at 8:22pm.

2. **COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS, COUNCIL LIAISON AND STAFF LIAISON REPORTS**

No reports shared.

3. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Comments are typically limited to three minutes per person and are limited to items not on the meeting agenda. Comments can also be heard at the time the item is discussed.

No members of the public present.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved/Second: Member (Kariuki/Wilson) Action: Passed a motion to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2020 meeting as submitted. Ayes: Mina Wilson, Buddy Akacić, Lee Kariuki, Walter Williams. Abstentions: Margo Hunter Parisi. Passed unanimously.

5. **DISCUSSION AND FOLLOW-UP TO JULY 1 JOINT SPECIAL MEETING WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE (EQC)**

Discussion and possible action regarding HRC actions regarding social justice.

Programming Subcommittee Update (Akacić, Williams, Wilson) – Commissioner Wilson provided an update on the meeting of this subcommittee. The sessions would take place twice a month initially but the frequency may change depending on the demand. Three stories would be shared per session in order to fully digest the information shared in each story. Every session would include one HRC Commissioner, a host, and a moderator. These sessions would start after the Black Lives Matter flag is raised.

Community Outreach Subcommittee Update (Kariuki, Morris, Parisi) - Commissioner Hunter Parisi provided an update on the meeting of this subcommittee. They have reached out to multiple community partners and are exploring ways to reach out to city boards, committees, and

commissioners.

6. BLACK LIVES MATTER FLAG

Discussion and possible action regarding time, place, and manner to display or fly a Black Lives Matter flag.

Commissioners discussed the logistics around the Black Lives Matter flag raising event scheduled for September 7, 2020. Commissioners will select their top choice out of three flag options to be provided. Staff Liaison Kristen Cunningham will purchase the top choice of the Commission. Commissioners discussed the length of time the flag would fly at City Hall and will remain mindful of other flags that are scheduled to fly throughout the year.

7. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PARADE AND ACTIVITIES

Discussion and possible action regarding the 2021 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade and related activities.

MLK event organizer Pat Durham provided preliminary information about the 2021 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. events. Due to COVID-19 and the need to maintain a safe and socially distanced environment, the planning committee is considering a different approach to this year's event. Preliminary discussions have been around partnering with BART for a car parade at either/both El Cerrito BART stations.

Moved/Second: Member (Hunter Parisi/Akacic) Action: Passed a motion to establish a MLK planning subcommittee with Lee Kariuki and Mina Wilson as the members. Ayes: Chair Hunter Parisi, Mina Wilson, Buddy Akacić, Lee Kariuki, Alice Morris, Walter Williams. Passed unanimously.

8. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Listening session planning, Black Lives Matter flag, and 2021 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting unanimously adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

