



## MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING OF THE HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

**Staff Liaison**

Kristen Cunningham | 510.215.4304  
[kcunningham@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:kcunningham@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us)

VIA TELECONFERENCE

**CONVENE REGULAR MEETING:** Vice Chair Kariuki called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

**ROLL CALL – Present:** Chair Walter Williams (arrived at 7:11pm), Buddy Akacić, Julia Conant, Lee Kariuki, Alice Morris, Mina Wilson.

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

Staff Liaison Kristen Cunningham shared that she submitted her resignation from her City position and this meeting will be her last meeting supporting the Commission. Assistant City Manager, Alexandra Orogas, will assume the staff liaison role on an interim basis. Vice Chair Lee Kariuki shared that he will not renew his term as a Commissioner and the February 2021 meeting will be his last with the Commission.

**2. 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.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Item moved to the next Commission meeting.

**4. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PARADE AND ACTIVITIES**

MLK Planning Chair, Patricia Durham, provided updates on the 2021 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. car parade set for Monday, January 18, 2021. This year's event is in partnership with BART and will begin at the El Cerrito Del Norte BART station and will caravan to the El Cerrito Plaza BART station where a COVID-safe program will be held. Final planning logistics were discussed.

**5. LISTENING SESSION DEBRIEF**

Commissioners discussed the community listening sessions that took place in November and December 2020. The Commission voted to establish a subcommittee to work on data for a report that will ultimately go to City Council with feedback and recommendations.

Moved/Second: Member (Williams/Akacic) Action: Passed a motion to establish a Listening Session Data Subcommittee with Commissioners Conant, Williams and Wilson as members. Ayes: Chair Williams, Buddy Akacic, Julia Conant, Alice Morris, Mina Wilson, Lee Kariuki. Passed unanimously.

**6. BLACK LIVES MATTER FLAG**

Commissioners discussed the long-term status of the Black Lives Matter flag currently flying at City Hall. Due to other flag commitments, the BLM flag will have to come down in honor of Pride month in June. The Commission discussed creating an annual event the first weekend of each October to re-raise the flag, with it flying until the end of Black History Month (February) of each year. Commissioners will provide this feedback and recommendation to City Council via the community listening session data report.

**7. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

- **MLK Debrief**
- **Listening Session Subcommittee Report**
- **Student Commissioner**
- **Former Tradeway Furniture Store History**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting unanimously adjourned at 8:41 p.m.