



**MINUTES OF THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, 2021
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SAN GABRIEL
HUMAN EQUITY, ACCESS, AND RELATIONS (HEAR) COMMISSION**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jennings-Nuñez called the special meeting of the HEAR Commission to order at 6:34 p.m. on Thursday August 26, 2021 with all Commissioners and staff participating by teleconference.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Borja.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Jacqueline Borja, Michelle Brenhaug, Susan Fitzsimmons, Viki Goto, Jorge Herrera, Riaz (Rick) Khan and Chasity Jennings-Nuñez
Commissioners Absent: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Recreation Supervisor Matthew Morales-Stevens provided information for the public on how to submit comments, and how to request meeting agendas. If you wish to address the HEAR Commission, e-mail all public comments to mmoralesstevens@sgch.org.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ORDER

Hearing no objection, Chair Jennings-Nuñez announced the agenda order was approved.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

3. ACTION ITEMS

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Brenhaug, seconded by Commissioner Borja to approve the minutes of the HEAR Commission Regular Meeting for July 27, 2021.

Motion approved as presented by a vote of 7-0-0 as follows:

Ayes: Borja, Brenhaug, Fitzsimmons, Goto, Khan, Herrera, Jennings-Nuñez

Nays: None

Abstain: None

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. GUEST SPEAKER- DANI ANDERSON

Ms. Anderson provided a community education presentation surrounding disability pride and culture, the Independent Living Movement, and improving communication between individuals with and without disabilities including attitudinal barriers and language use.

Public Comment: None

B. DISCUSSION OF THE ANNUAL WORKPLAN AND ACTION PLAN

The Annual Workplan was approved with amendments at the June 15 City Council meeting. Commissioners discussed progress made on each item. Primary items discussed at this meeting included Community Engagement, Youth Engagement and Partnerships.

Commissioner Borja provided an update on the research she has done related to the addition of a Youth Liaison to the Commission, resources that are available for youth in the City and the development of a survey.

Matthew Morales-Stevens, Recreation Supervisor, provided an update on the creation of a celebration for the Native American Heritage Month, including conversations with local tribal leaders.

Staff were directed to provide samples of surveys that the Community Services department has used in the past and provide an outline for the selection of a youth liaison.

Commissioner Borja volunteered to assist Commissioner Goto to develop questions for the youth survey.

Commissioners to send staff speaker recommendations for future meetings.

Public Comment: San Gabriel Community Services Commissioner, Bronwyn Stuart-Velazquez commented about looking forward to working with the H.E.A.R. Commission on future community events.

C. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT STATEMENT

Staff discussed updates on the development of the Land Acknowledgment Statement, including the decision from City Council regarding the development of a Land Acknowledgement Statement Advisory Committee with the addition of two Council Liaisons.

Public Comment: None

Staff recommended that the HEAR Commission appoint two commissioners to serve on the Land Acknowledgement Statement Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Borja nominated Chair Jennings-Nuñez and Commissioner Brenhaug nominated herself. Hearing no other nominations Chair Jennings-Nuñez closed the floor to nominations and declared both herself, Chair Jennings-Nuñez and Commissioner Brenhaug Land Acknowledgement Statement Advisory Committee Members.

5. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS AND CONFERENCE/MEETING REPORTS

Vice-Chair Herrera shared a quote by Steve Krug, "The one argument for accessibility that doesn't get made nearly often enough is how extraordinarily better it makes some people's lives. How many opportunities do we have to dramatically improve people's lives just by doing our job a little better?" Vice-Chair Herrera shared the importance of the HEAR Commission and the impact that it is making on the community.

Commissioner Fitzsimmons shared information she had related to the fiscal state of the City and urged the Commission to keep this in mind as they plan programs or events in the workplan.

Chair Jennings reminded Commissioners and community members to be active in their local government. She also provided a reminder of the upcoming election.

6. STAFF COMMENTS

Mark Lazzaretto, City Manager, stated that at the September 7 City Council meeting the Council will be considering an item for translation of agendas from English into Spanish, Chinese and Vietnamese. The item will include costs associated to the translation of the Council and HEAR Commission agendas.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Jennings-Nuñez adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Next regular meeting held on September 28, 2021 via teleconference at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted:



Danielle Adriano, Recreation Specialist

Approved this 13 day of October, 2021:



Chasity Jennings-Nuñez, Commission Chair