I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

The Meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm by President Morgan-Greene. Quorum was met.

Commissioners Present: Irma Beserra Núñez, Melany Dela Cruz-Viesca, Anthony Mack, Courtney Morgan-Greene, Rosa Russell, Angelica Solis-Montero, Dr. Amna Qazi, Mark Rothman, Irene Tovar

Commissioners Absent: Nirinjan Singh Khalsa

II. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

a. Happy Pride Month!

b. Welcome our newest Commissioner, Herpsima “Houri” Khatchadorian

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 22, 2019
The approval of the minutes were tabled.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

There was no public comment.

V. TRANSGENDER ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATES

TAC Monthly Status Report – Karina Samala, Chair
- Chuy Orozco, TAC Liaison, gave the TAC update in place of the board members.
- The TAC is planning a forum to discuss transgender issues with the LAPD. They are looking at dates in the fall and will update Commissioners.
- HCIDLA is finalizing the contract to transfer money to APAIT. The next Midnight Stroll will take place in September.
- The TAC voted on a motion to endorse the City’s support for SB 132, Senator Scott Weiner’s bill that allows incarcerated transgender individuals to select where they are housed based on their gender identity and/or safety needs.

VI. Information and Updates

a. Presentation on the services and mission of the City of Los Angeles Department on Disability and discussion on HRC role in supporting people with disabilities – Stephen Simon, General Manager of the City of Los Angeles Department on Disability

Mr. Stephen Simon, the Executive Director of the Department on Disability, shared some of the history of the department’s development and expressed
excitement about exploring partnerships with the Commission. Various members of his leadership team joined him for the presentation.

Jaime Pacheco Orozco, the Assistant Executive Director, said the department is looking at providing experience to 100 students with disabilities via a paid internship.

Geoffrey Straniere, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance Officer, spoke about the Disability Access Services Division.

Their section ensures ADA compliance for facilities, programs, and services for both City employees and the City’s constituency.

For example, his team has been active in assessing and designing for accessibility in new Bridge Home Housing developments, transportation design, and needed sidewalk repairs. They also are working on revitalizing accessible parking zones by identifying areas where blue curbs may be needed.

The unit is also leading a citywide self-evaluation and transition plan, in which City departments are evaluating their own accessibility needs and the Department is supporting them with remediation.

Lourdes Sinibaldi, Director of Community Outreach and Education, shared about her team’s efforts to bridge the informational gap between City Departments and constituents seeking resources.

Community engagement, which the HRC is also deeply invested in, is an essential part of this work.

For example, they held a hearing on the needs and concerns of Immigrants with Disabilities in partnership with the Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs (one of the challenges voiced in this hearing was the accessibility of City services).

They also co-sponsor and/or attend events that educate community members about resources (i.e. the annual Abilities Expo).

This section will be increasing its focus on homeless services in the upcoming year.

Some upcoming goals also include digital accessibility training for City Departments, working to make Census 2020 information accessible, presenting an art exhibit for Disability Awareness Month in October, and creating adaptive sports opportunities.

Ricky Rosales, AIDS Coordinator, shared his unit’s work in supporting programs that prevent the transmission of HIV and that improve quality of life for those living with HIV/AIDS.

The Education & Prevention focus area includes street prevention programs, testing, and a syringe exchange program.

The office also partnered with the TAC on a transmittal with recommendations to improve City services for transgender individuals. The office is currently working with the Mayor’s Office to expand sharps disposal units across City facilities, and expand the syringe exchange program into homeless encampments. LAPD’s current syringe exchange policy is one of the best in the nation.
The Policy & Planning focus area includes different advice in the realm of HIV-related issues. This has included funding a trans-masculine health study, doing capacity building training and workshops throughout the year, etc.

Next year the office will be supporting a study about HIV among Native Americans, and will be paying special attention to women experiencing homelessness, inclusion in sports (in preparation for the 2028 Paralympics), and training for City employees.

The missions of the office align with those of the HRC in various ways. Potential overlap includes:

Community listening sessions, town halls, workshops on intersecting issues; Community education and capacity-building; Advocating for accessibility and equity, particularly for underrepresented communities.

Commissioners thanked the Department on Disability staff for their time. Although mental health issues are considered disabilities, this is under the purview of the County along with most public health considerations. The City is considering whether it should have a more formal role in this arena.

Reel Abilities Film Festival will take place Oct. 24 to 26. Commissioners are invited to participate.

b. Boyle Heights Trust Collaborative Status Update & Next Steps

The Collaborative is currently on hold, pending higher level conversations with LAPD Deputy Chief Arcos on the outcomes they are looking for. There are similar dynamics currently at play in South Park in District 9. The staff is currently evaluating with the HRC’s methodology and staff capacity is to address these kinds of racialized (or, in the case of Boyle Heights, generational) public safety issues, and how to best address both situations.

Commissioners wanted to better understand the challenges that the original collaborative faced. Mr. Ortega responded that although members of the collaborative, as well as Chief Arcos, wanted to see action, nothing would happen between the meetings. For this reason it is important to take a step back to define our role and specific deliverables we can provide. This will be prepared by the end of the summer.

Olivia Mitchell, Assistant Chief Grants Administrator, added that staff needs to ensure they are providing a specific value add in partnership with different agencies and organizations who work in these neighborhoods daily.

c. Shoulder to Shoulder Ad Hoc Committee Update

This item was tabled to the next meeting.

d. Nominations for July HRC Elections

Commissioners were asked to provide Maia with nominations for the executive board.

VII. Action Items (20 min)

a. Discussion of HRC financial history, trust fund processes, and goals
i. Motion to create and populate the 2019-2021 Budget Ad Hoc Committee

The motion to create the Ad Hoc Committee was approved. Commissioners Rothman, Mack, Solis-Montero, and Tovar joined the committee.

VIII. HCIDLA UPDATES (10 min)

Save the Dates:
- June 24-July 5: Maia out of the office
- August: Commission meetings will not be held
- July 3, August 2, August 31, Ongoing: HRC Presence at LAPD Graduations

HCIDLA received permission to hire for the Project Coordinator position supporting the Commission on the Status of Women.

Seven Commissioners signed up to attend the visits with Housing Inspectors. Once those people attend, they will re-open the opportunity to more Commissioners.

IX. COMMISSIONER UPDATES (5 min)

Commissioner Beserra Núñez visit to El Centro de Ayuda FamilySource Center: This item was tabled to the next meeting. Commissioner Beserra Núñez will also be attending the next LAPD Graduation.

Commissioner Tovar shared information about CA AB 1460, which would require a 3-unit Ethnic Studies course as part of the CSU general education requirements. Commissioner Tovar requested that other Commissioners support this bill in their individual capacities.

Commissioner Beserra Núñez and Tovar met with the President of LA Mission College, Monty Perez, and set a date of September 28 to show the Not in Our Town documentary film as part of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Commissioner Mack is concerned about the recruitment process of African Americans for the LAPD, and requested a future conversation about the issue.

Commissioner Morgan-Greene attended a conference on reentry, Pride in South LA, and an African American Commissioners meeting alongside Commissioner Russell, where Deputy Mayor Christina Miller spoke about homelessness.

X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Communications Protocol
2019 Progress Report

XI. NEXT BOARD MEETINGS

July 24, 2019, 12-2 pm in City Hall Room 1070

Commission and Community Engagement Meetings:
- Community Action Board: Thursday, August 8, 10:00am-12:00pm, Room 1050
- Commission on Community & Family Services: Monday July 1, 9:30-11:30 am, Room 1060
- Rent Adjustment Commission: Thursday July 18, 12:00 pm at Hearing Room at 1200 W 7th St.
- Affordable Housing Commission: Wednesday July 17, 11:30 am-1:30 pm, Room 1070
XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2pm.

Meeting attachments:
- HRC Meeting Minutes
- Shoulder to Shoulder Draft Program Overview
- HRC Trust Fund – Ordinance & Current Budget
- CSW Spending Policy