

**CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS
DEPARTMENT**

200 N. Spring Street, 15th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 978-8354
www.civilandhumanrights.lacity.org

CAPRI MADDOX
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA**



ERIC GARGETTI
MAYOR

**CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMISSIONERS**

Araceli Campos
Aziza Hasan
Leslie Ivie
Helena Marissa Montes
Maegan E. Ortiz
Keith Parker
Abigail Zelenski

CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES
August 13, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

- Meeting called to order at 2:00 p.m. and roll call provided by Joumana Silyan-Saba.
- Commissioners in Attendance: Araceli Campos, Aziza Hasan, Leslie Ivie, Helena Marissa Montes, Maegan E. Ortiz, Keith Parker, and Abigail Zelenski

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes for the July 17th meeting approved.

III. AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENTS: No public comments.

IV. PRESENTATION

- Ms. Silyan-Saba introduced Ms. Alexandra Valdes the Executive Director of the LA City/County Native American Indian Commission and Ms. Castro the Chairwoman of the LA City/County Native American Indian Commission and a social justice consultant.
- Chairwoman Castro noted the large population of American Indians and Alaskan Natives in the city and county of Los Angeles, it being the second largest urban population in the country and emphasized the need for the city and county of Los Angeles to adopt the UN Resolution on the Rights of Indigenous People from Mexico and Latin America.
- Ms. Valdes related that COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately impacted Native American communities. She highlighted the challenges around data collection particularly as it relates to COVID-19 impact as well as the lack of much needed response.
- Both Ms. Castor and Ms. Valdes spoke of challenges around stereotypes and mischaracterization of Native Americans, which has perpetuated poverty, homelessness, and lack of access to health and wellness resources.

- Ms. Valdes further noted the epidemic of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) is one which is prevalent in Los Angeles and throughout the country. She urged support from CHRC to bring this issue to light and expressed willingness to partner on addressing these disparities.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Executive Director Maddox started by briefly sharing various efforts and undertakings that the Civil and Human Rights Department (CHRD) is currently leading, including recent work by the Human Relations Commission on racial equity and police reform policies.
- Ms. Maddox noted the partnership development with academic institutions to support law and policy fellow assignments, ongoing efforts to secure resources from a variety of philanthropic partners, and the Mayor's Fund efforts related to COVID-19 equity initiatives.
- Ms. Maddox briefly shared the work with the Private Sector Task Force, which is convened by Mayor Garcetti and led by the Budget and Innovations team. She noted CHRD's current role in working with the task force and helping to develop industry diversity metrics through voluntary corporate participation to support employment equity.
- She also provided a progress update regarding the CHRD official website and acknowledged Sonia Pandya, who has been working on a volunteer basis to develop the website.
- Ms. Maddox shared that the CHRD gender equity action plan was submitted and also noted upcoming council committee meetings where CHRD will be on the agenda related to the proposed budget and request for expedited staffing of the department.
- Finally, Ms. Maddox provided a quick overview of a number of upcoming events through the CHRD, including hate crime prevention events, a transgender community event, and a re-entry forum.

VI. DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

- a. Motion to approve the CHRC bylaws was approved by the full board.
- b. Commissioners hosted officers' election with accordance to the bylaws. Commissioner Araceli Campos was elected as the Chair and Commissioner Leslie Ivie as the Vice Chair.
- c. Ms. Silyan-Saba shared the importance of training and on-going development of commissioners to include ethics and brown act trainings.

VII. AGENDA SETTING & NEXT COMMISSION MEETING: The next regularly scheduled meeting is set for September 10th at 2:00 p.m.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 3:42 p.m.