

**CIVIL + HUMAN RIGHTS AND
EQUITY DEPARTMENT**

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**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA**



COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

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KEITH PARKER
ABIGAIL ZELENSKI

ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

MEETING MINUTES
April 8, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Commissioner Campos called meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.
- Commissioners in Attendance: Araceli Campos, Leslie Ivie, Aziza Hasan, Helena Marissa Montes, Keith Parker, Abigail Zelenski

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 11, 2021 meeting minutes approved with amended spelling correction to reflect “Nisha Vyas”.

III. PRESENTATIONS: Brown Act Social Media Provision by Deputy City Attorney, Barak Vaughn

- AB 992 amended code Section 54952.2 which impacts board members, councilmembers, and commissioners’ actions on internet-based social media. Board members, councilmembers, and commissioners cannot engage in a series of communication with each other on any internet-based social media within the subject matter jurisdiction of the body.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT: Executive Director Capri Maddox provided budget and staffing updates. She noted that a FUSE Fellow and a Public Rights Fellow applicant are currently being considered. She also noted that the construction of the LA Civil Rights office is at 60% completion. Ms. Maddox noted a number of public engagements including:

- ✓ Breaking Bread with the NFL on February 26, 2021.
- ✓ African Americans Equity in Media on February 23, 2021.
- ✓ Celebration of Transgender Visibility Day on March 30, 2021.
- ✓ Real Talk, an upcoming youth engagement event on April 13, 2021.

V. Discussion & Action Items:

- Ms. Joumana Silyan-Saba provided a Discrimination Enforcement Division progress update. She highlighted that the case management system is being

developed by ITA and noted that the team is currently in the beta-testing phase to launch the online inquiry web-form.

- Ms. Silyan-Saba discussed the development of the Administrative Rules and Procedures document which will require final approval from the commission once it is developed. Ms. Heather Aubry, Special Assistant City Attorney, stated that the document will include administrative hearing process guidelines.
- Commissioner Abigail Zelenski discussed the impact of hate crimes on the AAPI communities and noted that according to stopaapihate.org there were 3,795 reported incidents nationally and 245 incidents within the County of Los Angeles.
- Commissioner Zelenski acknowledged a number of actions to address the drastic rise in AAPI hate crimes including the LA Civil Rights formal statement issued against AAPI hate crimes on February 16, 2021. She further highlighted the internal AAPI Hate Prevention Working Group launched by Mayor Garcetti's to assist in streamlining city efforts. The group meets weekly and is comprised of various AAPI commissioners, along with the LA Civil Rights Department, LAPD and other city departments.
- Ms. Maddox and Commissioner Zelenski briefly noted the planning for an upcoming citywide campaign to promote an inclusive messaging and encourage hate crimes reporting.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Commission Chair Araceli Campos announced that the monthly commission meetings will be convened bi-monthly as of April 2021. The next meeting will be held in June 2021.
- Commissioner Zelenski announced that the Filipino Bar Association, in partnership with the City of LA and the LA Civil Rights Department, will host a "Know Your Rights" community forum on April 15, 2021.

II. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 3:16 p.m.