

City of Chula Vista
Regular Human Relations Commission Meeting
MINUTES

February 27, 2025, 6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers, 276 Fourth Avenue, Chula Vista, CA

Present: Commissioner Diaz, Commissioner Hecklinski, Commissioner Hodge, Commissioner Huizar, Commissioner Holm, Commissioner Lares-Urquidez, Commissioner Olaoye, Commissioner Pajanor, Commissioner Redondo, Vice Chair Kean-Ayub, Chair Branch

Also Present: Adrianna Hernandez, Angel Ibarra

Minutes are prepared and ordered to correspond to the agenda.

1. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Human Relations Commission of the City of Chula Vista was called to order at 6:02 p.m. in the Council Chambers, located in City Hall, 276 Fourth Avenue, Chula Vista, California.

2. ROLL CALL

Secretary Ibarra called the roll.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Moved by Commissioner Hecklinski

Seconded by Vice Chair Kean-Ayub

Commission approve consent calendar.

Yes (11): Commissioner Diaz, Commissioner Hecklinski, Commissioner Hodge, Commissioner Huizar, Commissioner Holm, Commissioner Lares-Urquidez, Commissioner Olaoye, Commissioner Pajanor, Commissioner Redondo, Vice Chair Kean-Ayub, and Chair Branch

Result: Carried (11 to 0)

3.1 Approval of Meeting Minutes

Commission approve minutes.

3.2 Written Communications

Commission approve request for excused absences.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Robert provided public comment regarding 5.1 and 5.2.

5. ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Discussion Regarding the 2025 Human Relations Commission Awards Program

Chair Branch introduced the item and discussion ensued.

Commission create subcommittee to plan and develop Human Relations Commission Awards program criteria and process.

Moved by Commissioner Redondo

Seconded by Commissioner Lares-Urquidez

Commission discuss and possibly create a subcommittee to plan and develop program criteria and process.

Yes (11): Commissioner Diaz, Commissioner Hecklinski, Commissioner Hodge, Commissioner Huizar, Commissioner Holm, Commissioner Redondo, Vice Chair Kean-Ayub, and Chair Branch

Result: Carried (11 to 0)

5.2 Updates, Discussion, and Possible Action Regarding Ad-Hoc Subcommittees

Chair Branch gave an update on the Ad-Hoc subcommittee on events and discussed ensued.

Moved by Commissioner Diaz

Seconded by Vice Chair Kean-Ayub

Nominate to Mayor's office the following groups for a proclamation in honor of Women's History Month in March, Chula Vista Women's Club, MANA of San Diego, League of Women voters, Girl Scouts of Chula Vista and Heritage Scouting of Chula Vista

Yes (10): Commissioner Diaz, Commissioner Hecklinski, Commissioner Hodge, Commissioner Huizar, Commissioner Holm, Commissioner Lares-Urquidez, Commissioner Olaoye, Commissioner Pajanor, Vice Chair Kean-Ayub, and Chair Branch

No (1): Commissioner Redondo

Result: Carried (10 to 1)

Moved by Chair Branch

Seconded by Commissioner Pajanor

Ask the social media team to create women's history month social media campaign and highlight women of Chula Vista and women commissioners.

Yes (10): Commissioner Diaz, Commissioner Hecklinski, Commissioner Hodge, Commissioner Huizar, Julie Holm, Leticia Lares-Urquidez, Commissioner Olaoye, Commissioner Pajanor, Vice Chair Kean-Ayub, and Chair Branch

No (1): Commissioner Redondo

Result: Carried (10 to 1)

Moved by Commissioner Redondo

Seconded by Commissioner Pajanor

Create subcommittees on Memorial Day, Pride and Juneteenth celebrations

Yes (11): Commissioner Diaz, Commissioner Hecklinski, Commissioner Hodge, Commissioner Huizar, Commissioner Holm, Leticia Lares-Urquidez, Commissioner Olaoye, Commissioner Pajanor, Commissioner Redondo, Vice Chair Kean-Ayub, and Chair Branch

Result: Carried (11 to 0)

Moved by Commissioner Diaz

Seconded by Commissioner Lares-Urquidez

Appoint the following members to Ad-Hocs:

Memorial Day Ad-Hoc: Commissioners Diaz, Commissioner Hecklinski, and Commissioner Huizar

Pride Ad-Hoc: Vice Chair Kean-Ayub, Commissioner Diaz

Juneteenth Ad-Hoc: Commissioners Hecklinski, Commissioner Olaoye, Chair Branch

Yes (11): Commissioner Diaz, Commissioner Hecklinski, Commissioner Hodge, Commissioner Huizar, Commissioner Holm, Commissioner Lares-Urquidez, Commissioner Olaoye, Commissioner Pajanor, Commissioner Redondo, Vice Chair Kean-Ayub, and Chair Branch

Result: Carried (11 to 0)

OTHER BUSINESS

6. STAFF COMMENTS

Angel Ibarra thanked the commissioners for their participation and warm welcome, highlighting the importance of active engagement in meetings, emails, and events to ensure the commission's success. Staff also emphasized the need for collaboration to address the community's challenges and to continue making a positive impact in Chula Vista.

7. CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chair Branch welcomed Mr. Ibarra as the new staff liaison, noting that she has already had the opportunity to collaborate with him on the Black History Month flag-raising event. She expressed appreciation for his service and looks forward to working together.

She also emphasized the importance of consistent attendance to ensure quorum, highlighting that with the number of events the commission is responsible for planning, missing a meeting due to lack of quorum can significantly delay progress.

8. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Lares-Urquidez requested discussion at a future meeting on the creation of a "Highlights" page on the Human Relations Commission webpage to showcase key commission activities and initiatives.

Commissioner Diaz requested two items to be added to the next agenda including discussion on the UCSD Shiley Eye Center Mobile Clinic, which offers free optometry and oculus testing, as well as free eyeglasses and suggested adding European History Month through a proclamation or flag-raising. There was a consensus from the Commission to include this item on the next meeting's agenda.

Commissioner Olaoye expressed appreciation to Angel Ibarra for reaching out and taking the time to meet with each commissioner individually.

Commissioner Pajanor proposed the idea of holding commission meetings within the community to enhance engagement and build stronger relationships with residents.

Commissioner Redondo inquired about whether a survey about Human Relations would be distributed through the city. City staff Adrianna Relph explained that Human Relations Commission surveys have been sent out in the past.

Commissioner Hodge thanked Angel Ibarra for his support and noted that he appears to be the full-time staff member dedicated to facilitating community relations. Requested a copy of his job description to better understand how commissioners can collaborate with him in strengthening community engagement.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Angel Ibarra, Staff Liaison/Commission Secretary

Angel Ibarra, Commission Secretary