

Commission on Human Relations
February 9, 2023
<https://zoom.us/j/94694318482?from=addon>
MINUTES

PRESENT

D'Alessandro, Valentina LA County HRC
De La Rosa, Gary at large
Jacobs, Bud Superintendent
Valentina D'Alessandro LA Co HRC
Kakassy, Allan McKenna (1)
Richardson, Joan CSEA
Rivlin, Shelley Schmerelson (3)
Watts, Joyce selected
Williams, Jamaal LACOE

STAFF

Chiasson, Judy HRDE

ABSENT

Abelsson, Mark selected
Blanshay, Linda Museum of Tolerance
Crouch, Perry Franklin (7)
Garcia, Jeronimo Melvoin (4)
Friedman, Matthew ADL
Tooley, Skye UTLA

VACANT

Rivas (2)
Goldberg (5)
Gonez (6)
AALA

Meeting commenced at 6:30 pm

January minutes approved.

Reports of standing committees, standing updates/reports/Commissioner proposed items:

Housing Task Force Rivlin - Araceli Gonzalez is the new advisor for the Housing. Focusing on the hygiene program. Did a site visit to Jordan High's laundry facilities. Markham MS has an onsite person who does the laundry the students bring. Reseda is targeted next. It is reaching high level endorsement. Will explore before/after hours access to showers. Also, looking at tap cards for local laundromats.

Monday, 4:30 – 6:00 meeting of the housing task force

Educational Equity and School Culture – Kakassy AB1703 California Indian Education Act. Lydia Acosta Stevens is leading LAUSD's response. Esteban is putting together a California Indian Education Task Force.

Human Relations Awards Zoeckler is revising the communications packet. Discussed a theme for the year. Will continue without a theme. *Strengthen school/community involvement through innovative student project*. Submissions due April 14, the Friday after spring break. Event is on June 2nd. Susie will check schools re their finals schedule.

Retreat - Joyce Germaine Watts & Linda Blanshay where are we with the retreat part 2? Want the retreat to tie into the direction on the commission. Will ask Mark about the function of the executive team to draft an agenda. We prefer an in-person. Commission would like to schedule part 2 of the June retreat. Blanshay will coordinate with Retreat Subcommittee to meet with Alan the facilitator for summary of Part 1 and recommendations for subsequent sessions.

Black Students event - Watts – Many schools in the valley have less than 4% are African American. The small numbers mean the students have reduced opportunity for affinity groups. Students attended a CSUN viewing of *The Woman King*. Joyce shared student comments following the screening. E.g., “I didn’t realize how nice it feels to be around others like myself.” And “The importance about learning about diversity and other cultures.”

Office of Human Relations, Diversity & Equity

Piloting *Proud to Be/Project 10* groups at schools

Preparing for *Jazz and Friends* Read aloud event February 16

HR Awards

Watts Re: Black Student Achievement Project (BSAP): Saturday, February 11, 7:30 am – 12:30 pm. Region North at Van Nuys HS – [semiannual African American Parent Empowerment Summit](#), organized by Village Nation, LAUSD, community partners and higher ed. Community of Schools admin will be on a panel. Hope that staff attendees will bring it back to the schools. Partnership with CBO has been helpful.

BSAP – federal money for three years. We need more than money. National Alliance of AA Parents and Youth

Student Bill of Rights de la Rosa is distributed to students.

Judy contacted Cynthia.Ronquillo@lausd.net to learn how student get the special recognition sticker for community involvement on their diplomas.

Meeting schedule (subject to change by commission vote) *Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.:*

- March 9, April 13, May 11, June 8
- Adjournment and announcements 7:58 P.M.

Closed in honor of the Turkish people in this time of tragedy.

Upcoming Events: Saturday, February 11, 7:30 am – 12:30 pm. Region North at Van Nuys HS – [semiannual African American Parent Empowerment Summit](#).