



Human Relations Commission

Regular Meeting

Thursday, October 23, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.

Festival Park Plaza Training Room, 225 Ray Ave, Suite 122

Present: Chairwoman Donna Pelham (Virtual); Vice-Chairman Commissioner Eric Bradley Sr.; Secretary Crystal Edmonds (Virtual); Commissioner Dakiesha Upchurch (Virtual); Commissioner Denise Abrams, MSG (Ret.); Commissioner Sarah Singletary; Commissioner Dr. Toshiba Narcisse (Virtual); Commissioner Shirley Francis; Commissioner Michael Long; Commissioner Dr. Tracy Pelt; Commissioner Michael A. Sabb, LTC (Ret.); Commissioner Demetria Murphy; Commissioner Lynndora Thompson

Absent: Commissioner Milette Herring (Excused); Commissioner William "Bill" Milton (Excused)

Staff Present: Yamile Nazar, Human Relations Director; Yamilet Padilla, Human Relations Specialist; Diona Curtis, Administrative Specialist

Vice-Chairman Bradley Sr. called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Vice-Chairman Bradley Sr. called for the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence.

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Pelt, seconded by Commissioner Francis. Vote was unanimous.

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Commissioner Pelt. Vote was unanimous.

Rules Suspension: Motion to suspend the speaking limit from ten minutes to two minutes was made by Commissioner Pelt, seconded by Commissioner Sabb. Vote was unanimous.

At-Large Officers: Vice-Chairman Bradley Sr. stated that at the Commission Retreat Commissioners Pelt and Singletary were selected to serve as At-Large Officers on the Executive Committee.

Motion to approve the At-Large officers was made by Vice-Chairman Bradley Sr. Vote was unanimous.

Committee – Sign-up: Vice-Chairman Bradley Sr. inquired about the committee sign-ups. Ms. Curtis stated that descriptions of each committee are included in the meeting packet, and a sign-up sheet is being circulated among the Commissioners. Ms. Nazar added that the Rapid Response Committee is the only committee that is not currently active.

Bylaws Update: Vice-Chairman Bradley Sr. stated that there are currently no updates on the bylaws. Ms. Nazar explained that once the committee completes its updates, the proposed bylaws will be brought before the Commissioners for a motion to send to the City Attorney's Office (CAO). Once approved, the bylaws are submitted to the CAO and then forwarded to City Council for ratification. Once ratified, the bylaws are returned to the Human Relations Commission as the official updated bylaws.

Dining & Dialogue: Ms. Nazar requested that Commissioners assist with marketing the event and inquired whether anyone knew a Sikh individual who could participate on the panel of religious leaders. She stated that the event will take place on November 19 at the Kiwanis Recreation Center, is free to the public, and lunch will be provided. Current panelists include a Catholic priest, an Imam, a Rabbi, an Episcopalian leader, with the Anglican leader listed as tentative.

Holiday Social – December 11: Ms. Nazar inquired about the preferred location for the Holiday Social. It was decided that the Holiday Social will be held at Olea on December 11 at 5:30 p.m. Ms. Curtis will send out a calendar invitation will be sent closer to the date.


New Business: Ms. Nazar stated that Commissioners will be provided with greater insight into the work of the department by sharing interesting cases that are received. In a current Fair Housing case being investigated, it was discovered that accessibility laws were not followed in the architectural plan. Ms. Nazar also addressed an issue raised by a speaker at a recent City Council meeting concerning specific artwork at the Arts Council.

Departmental Report: Ms. Nazar stated the Departmental Report can be found in the meeting packet.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 22, 2026.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Abrams, seconded by Commissioner Thompson. The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Approved _____



Crystal Edmonds, Secretary