



**MINUTES OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2022  
MEETING OF THE SAN GABRIEL  
HUMAN EQUITY, ACCESS, AND RELATIONS (HEAR) COMMISSION**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Jennings-Nuñez called the regular meeting of the HEAR Commission to order at 6:34 p.m. on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 with all Commissioners and staff participating by teleconference.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Borja.

**ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners Present:** Michelle Brenhaug, Jacqueline Borja, Susan Fitzsimmons, Viki Goto, Jorge Herrera, Riaz (Rick) Khan and Chasity Jennings-Nuñez

**Commissioners Absent:** None.

Commission Fitzsimmons left meeting early at 7:36 p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Recreation Supervisor Matthew Morales-Stevens provided information for the public on how to submit comments, and how to request meeting agendas. If you wish to address the HEAR Commission, e-mail all public comments to [mmoralesstevens@sgch.org](mailto:mmoralesstevens@sgch.org).

**1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ORDER**

Chair Jennings-Nuñez hearing no objections, the Agenda Order was approved.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **3. ACTION ITEMS**

#### **A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Commissioner Brenhaug and seconded by Commissioner Fitzsimmons to approve the minutes of the HEAR Commission Regular Meeting for November 30, 2021.

Motion approved as presented by a vote of 6-0-0 as follows:

Ayes: Brenhaug, Borja, Fitzsimmons, Goto, Herrera, Jennings-Nuñez

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Commissioner Khan was present but unavailable to vote due to technical difficulties. He had to temporarily exit the meeting and was back on at 6:41 p.m.

### **4. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **A. GUEST SPEAKER – CHINATOWN SERVICE CENTER**

Angela Ching, Clinic Operations Manager from Chinatown Service Center provided a presentation on all of the center's services and programs. Angela will provide the PowerPoint presentation and additional resources to Matthew Morales-Stevens via e-mail.

The Commission asked clarifying questions.

Public Comment: None

#### **B. REVIEW AND WORK ON THE 2021 ANNUAL WORKPLAN**

Matthew Morales-Stevens, Recreation Supervisor, provided an update on the Youth Ambassador application and the Youth Engagement Survey.

Chair Jennings-Nuñez suggested sending information directly to the school district to distribute to students.

The Commission directed staff to add the length of time needed to complete the survey to the ad.

Public Comment: None

#### **C. DEVELOPMENT OF 2022 ANNUAL WORKPLAN**

Matthew Morales-Stevens, Recreation Supervisor, provided the update.

The Commission discussed organizing a panel to give the community an opportunity to meet the MET team and host a Q & A. They also suggested inviting a speaker from Athens to teach the community about recycling and how it is conducted in their city. Commissioner Goto discussed environmental justice and how it affects low-income families and how beneficial it would be to introduce sustainable gardening and recycling of clothing.

Vice-Chair Herrera suggested having surveys distributed to city employees to see if they feel there is diversity in the workplace. He recommended inviting the Historical Commission to host a presentation about all of the city's buildings and their history. He looks forward to in-person meetings where the Commission can be more visible and the community can see how diverse this group is.

Chair Jennings-Nuñez would like to add a recommendation of two \$2500 small business grants be given to businesses to improve accessibility.

Matthew Morales-Stevens, Recreation Supervisor, recommended tabling the approval of the work plan until the next meeting so that staff can update the plan with the changes discussed. The commission agreed to bring the item back to the February meeting.

Public Comment: None

#### **D. LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT STATEMENT**

Matthew Morales-Stevens, Recreation Supervisor, provided the update.

Chair Jennings-Nuñez shared that during the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, the committee agreed to work on identifying the stakeholders and providing added opportunities for local tribal leaders to have additional input in the Land Acknowledgment Statement.

Public Comment: None

#### **5. COMMISSION REPORTS**

Vice-Chair Herrera shared that he will be attending a local Lunar New Year event.

Commissioner Goto is a member of the City of Hope Advisory Council and attended one of their meetings last week. She shared information on available community grants, including Healthy Living Grants and Michelson Foundation Spark Grants. The Spark Grants are of up to \$25,000 and are awarded to projects that seek to close the digital divide. She also provided an update on the San Gabriel

Valley Stop-Hate Community Survey and shared some of the survey report's findings.

Chair Jennings-Nuñez commented on Blossom Market's diverseness. Blossom Market includes San Gabriel's first black owned business and also has many female owners. She also encouraged listeners to apply for the open spot on City Council. She mentioned that February 1<sup>st</sup> is the start of Black History Month, as well as Chinese New Year.

Public Comment: None

## **6. STAFF COMMENTS**

Matthew Morales-Stevens, Recreation Supervisor announced that the City's Lunar New Year event has been cancelled due to COVID-19. The Community Services Department will host smaller events to celebrate the holiday. He confirmed that the senior lunch program is still running and reminded the commission of the reorganization scheduled for the next meeting.

Public Comment: None

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Jennings-Nuñez adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

Next regular meeting is tentatively scheduled in person for Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

  
Adrienne Franquez, Administrative Assistant II

Approved this 22 day of February, 2022:

  
Chasity Jennings-Nuñez, Commission Chair