



City of Davis
Human Relations Commission
City Hall Conference Room, 23 Russell Blvd. Davis CA 95616
Thursday, August 24 2023
Minutes

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Commissioner Muhammad called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Commissioners present: Kevin Baker, Connor Gorman, Robin Muhammad, NJ Mvondo (Chair) (6:47), Leonie Pickett, Edgar Wong-Chen (6:57)

Ex-Officios present: Kate Snow (DJUSD), Leanne Friedman (Faith Based), Grace Hadini (DJUSD Student), Ashish Lama (DJUSD Student)

Commissioners absent: None

Council Liaisons present: Councilmember Partida

Others present: City of Davis staff - Carrie Dyer

2. Approval of Agenda

Baker moved with second by Gorman approval of the agenda as presented. The motion passed as follows:

AYE: Baker, Gorman, Muhammad, Pickett

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners and Liaisons

- *Welcome and Introductions to new Commissioner Pickett*
- *August 26 is Women's Equality Day*
- *Davis Neighbors Night Out sign up open now.*

4. Public Comment

- *None*

5. Consent Calendar

A. June 22, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Baker moved with second by Gorman approval of the consent calendar as presented. The motion passed as follows:

AYE: Baker, Gorman, Muhammad,

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Pickett

ABSENT: None

6. Regular Items

A. Public Forum on Recent Hate Incidents in the Davis Community

The Human Relations Commission provided an opportunity to discuss and receive public input on recent hate incidents in the Davis community.

- *Recent event at the library – speaker addressed issues around girls in sports and transgender athletes, organized by the Moms for Liberty organization. Newspaper reporting states that the event was shut down due to the library stating that the speaker was misgendering and that went against the library code of conduct.*
- *Bomb threat at the library the next day, with media documenting that there was derogatory commentary made in relation to it. News reporting that other libraries across the country have been targeted as well.*
- *How events are communicated is important. Not everyone gets their news and information the same way. Sharing of accurate information is important.*
- *Reference to the person in Southern California who was shot and killed for having a Pride flag in their window. Communications and messages that are put out there is important.*
- *Free speech is important, however when free speech was created, there were no protected classes. The goal of free speech is to create freedom and democracy and not a way to oppress people.*
- *Children’s rights should also be centered.*

Public Comment:

- *Dorte Jensen – Encourage commissioners to review Washington.com that has video posted from various angles. Bomb threats happen in the schools throughout the year as well, so may not be correlated.*

B. Election of Vice Chair to the Human Relations Commission

The commission voted to select a new vice chair due to a recently vacated position.

Public Comment:

None

Chair Mvondo nominated Commissioner Muhammad for vice chair with second by Baker. The motion passed as follows:

AYE: Baker, Gorman, Muhammad, Mvondo, Pickett, Wong-Chen

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

C. Commission Workshops Subcommittee

The subcommittee on community workshops provided an update on confirmed partnerships and a list of potential workshops to be offered.

Themes explored:

- *Active Listening*
- *Violence De-escalation*

- *Intergenerational Friendships*
- *Show of Solidarity*
- *Good Neighbors Practices in partnership with Downtown Street Team coordinators and team*
- *Look to community groups for partnership and collaboration*
- *Invitation to HRC to table at Upstander Carnival in October*
- *Ways to incorporate ideas into DNNO for including neighbors*

Schools this year will be celebrating Indigenous People's Day. Is there some partnership with DJUSD surrounding this that the HRC can do. – Potentially 2024

Public Comment:

None

D. Work Plan Review

The Commission reviews their workplan annually and makes changes and updates.

The commission will have a special meeting to focus solely on the workplan. Staff will send a Doodle poll for availability.

Public Comment:

None

E. Committee Updates

Committees provided updates as needed

- *Anti-Hate Subcommittee (Gorman, Hadani, Mvondo, Wong-Chen) – Will discuss work of Hate Free Together work coming forward*
- *Civil Rights Municipal Code Review (Baker, Mvondo, Muhammad) – Group met and began review of city ordinance to see what is in line with state and federal code. Goal might be to tie the city ordinance to state and federal one, so as they change the City one changes with it. Sub-committee would like to meet with the City Clerk and draft a document for the full commission to review.*
- *Commission Workshops Subcommittee (Gorman, Lama, Muhammad, Mvondo) – Update in agenda item 6C.*

Public Comment:

None

Baker moved with second by Wong-Chen to re-open item 3 for brief announcements. Motion passed as follows:

AYE: Baker, Gorman, Muhammad, Mvondo, Pickett, Wong-Chen

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Announcements after re-opening item

- *DJUSD started this week. Professional Development training had large attendance*
- *Native American remains found on school district property during construction. Protocol is followed with Yocha Dehe, local tribe and with agreement of the school district. Way of recognition is in process.*
- *Register of Nurses at Sutter Davis Hospital voted to create a union.*
- *September 19 is national voter registration today. Encourages commission to be involved in the effort.*

7. Future Agenda Items/Long Range Calendar

- *Work Plan Review*
- *Hate Free Together*
- *Land Acknowledgment*
- *Free Speech*
- *Media Hate*
- *Multi-culturalism event for youth in Davis*
- *Look into housing language to see if it includes non-discrimination*
- *Critical Race Theory/Ethnic Studies Counter Narrative*
- *Interactions with other commissions*
- *Youth Voice*

Public Comment:

None

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled meeting of Thursday, September 28.