



**City of Davis
Human Relations Commission
Minutes
Thursday, September 28, 2023**

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Mvondo called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

Commissioners present: Kevin Baker, Connor Gorman, NJ Mvondo (Chair), Leonie Pickett, Edgar Wong-Chen

Ex-Officios present: Christopher Pheneger (UC Davis), Ashish Lama (DJUSD Student)

Commissioners absent: Vice Chair Robin Muhammad

Council Liaisons present: None

Others present: City of Davis staff - Carrie Dyer

2. Approval of Agenda

Wong-Chen moved with second by Pickett approval of the agenda as presented. The motion passed as follows:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Muhammad

3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners and Liaisons

- Welcome to Christopher Pheneger, Interim Director of Campus and Community Engagement*
- Davis Neighbors Night Out currently has 124 parties scheduled*
- UC Davis Labor Center is having a launch event on Thursday, October 5th at 4:00 p.m.*
- This week DJUSD continued to receive multiple bomb threats on Monday and Tuesday this week. The threats included two directed at district employee's homes. The school board had an emergency board meeting to discuss the ongoing threats. The school district is providing counseling and support services to both students and staff.*
- October 7 – Indigenous Peoples Day event in Sacramento*
- Ongoing UAW strike – auto workers are striking throughout California*
- Local UAW chapters, representing academic workers, October 5th -Rally against harassment*
- Around the Country efforts to stop militarization of police with trying to oppose the Cop City in Atlanta Georgia. Local events at UC Davis and in Sacramento are taking place.*
- Upstander Carnival will be held on October 21 in Central Park*
- Airport Workers are currently striking with a push for better health care.*

4. Public Comment

None

5. Consent Calendar

- A. June 22, 2023 Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes

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

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Muhammad

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.

- *Bomb threats seemed to be targeted and are occurring throughout the country.*
- *Does the City have anything in place to address support of community members feeling anxious, stress and harm?*
 - *Local organizations are available – NAMI, etc.*
- *What is role of the commission to foster community conversation?*
 - *Host dialogs, conduct educational programs, etc.*
 - *Subcommittee on community workshops could support this*
 - *Yolo Conflict Resolution Center has training materials and professionals to help facilitate training of facilitators*
 - *Gender Spectrum organization does trainings for DJUSD*
 - *Parents are searching for help on how to talk with young children about threats to their schools.*
- *How can we connect with UC Davis and understand what other kinds of threats are happening on campus and in the community.*

Public Comment:

None

B. Work Plan Review

The Commission continued review of their current work plan and updated to reflect current work and goals. They will finalize the workplan at the next scheduled meeting.

Public Comment:

None

C. Commission Workshops Subcommittee

The Commission has created a subcommittee to discuss community workshops. The committee will provide an update on ideas for topics and themes and a proposed budget.

The committee met and identified a grant that may be possible to apply for that will support presenters. The hope is that there will be one workshop a month. The committee will bring a report to the October meeting for the commission to review.

Public Comment:

None

D. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Subcommittee

The Commission determined the planning subcommittee for the 2024 event.

Baker moved with second by Wong-Chen to have a planning committee to include Mvondo, Pickett and Muhammad and to reach out to community members who may be interested in participating.

Motion passed as follows:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Muhammad

Public Comment:

None

E. Committee Updates

Committees will provide updates as needed

- Anti-Hate Subcommittee (Gorman, Hadani, Mvondo, Wong-Chen)
Discussion of ways that the commission can address hate in the community. Are there things that can be institutionalized within the HRC, like adding the standing public forum on recent hate incidents.
- Civil Rights Municipal Code Review (Baker, Lama, Mvondo, Muhammad)
No update
- Commission Workshops Subcommittee (Gorman, Muhammad, Mvondo, Lama)
Update above

Public Comment:

None

7. Future Agenda Items/Long Range Calendar

- *Work Plan Review (October)*

- *Hate Free Together*
- *November and December meeting dates (October)*
- *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 (8:30)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled meeting of October 26, 2023.