



**City of Davis  
Human Relations Commission  
Minutes  
Thursday, November 16, 2023**

**1. Call to Order & Roll Call**

*Vice Chair Muhammad called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.*

*Commissioners present: Kevin Baker, Connor Gorman, Robin Muhammad (Vice Chair), Leonie Pickett*

*Ex-Officios present: Leanne Friedman, Christopher Nguyen Pheneger*

*Commissioners absent: NJ Mvondo (Chair), Edgar Wong-Chen*

*Council Liaisons present: None*

*Others present: City of Davis staff - Carrie Dyer*

**2. Approval of Agenda**

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

*AYE: Baker, Gorman, Muhammad, Pickett*

*NOES: None*

*ABSTAIN: None*

*ABSENT: Mvondo, Wong-Chen*

**3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners and Liaisons (6:35)**

- Staff provided an update on current commission vacancies*
- Staff provided an update on the municipal code review*

**4. Public Comment**

*None*

**5. Consent Calendar (6:55)**

**A. October 26, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

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

*AYE: Baker, Gorman, Muhammad, Pickett*

*NOES: None*

*ABSTAIN: None*

*ABSENT: Mvondo, Wong-Chen*

**6. Regular Items (7:00)**

**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.*

- *Group of people in Davis who feel that an image in the free speech area of the market is anti-Semitic and are avoiding the Farmers Market.*
- *Some community members feel that pro-Palestine actions taken at the University are hate speech.*
- *Student protests happening at UC Davis.*

**Public Comment:**

*None*

**B. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Planning Update**

*The subcommittee assigned to the MLK celebration provided an update on planning efforts. They are continuing to work to schedule the program.*

*Public Comment:*

*None*

**C. Cesar Chavez Committee Update**

*The Commission determined a planning subcommittee for the Cesar Chavez celebration to take place in 2024.*

*Baker moves with second by Pickett to have Baker, Gorman and Wong-Chen be the planning committee for the Cesar Chavez celebration. The motion passed as follows:*

*AYE: Baker, Gorman, Muhammad, Pickett*

*NOES: None*

*ABSTAIN: None*

*ABSENT: Mvondo, Wong-Chen*

*Public Comment:*

*None*

**D. Committee Updates**

Committees provided updates as needed

- *Commission Workshops Subcommittee (Gorman, Muhammad, Mvondo, Lama) – Information and fact gathering continues – staff will prepare proposal will go to Council on December 5 or 12.*
- *Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Planning Subcommittee (Muhammad, Mvondo, Pickett) – Discussed in agenda item 6 B*
- *Community Listening Subcommittee (Baker, Muhammad, Pickett)*
  - *Subcommittee has met a number of times and started with the charge of finding ways to listen to community members regarding the situation in Israel and Palestine.*

- *Reached out to a number of community leaders to collect information and ask if there is anything else that the City could do to be helpful.*
- *In doing research, the subcommittee discovered previous work by City Council and the HRC in relation to promoting peace.*
- *Ideas – Listening circles, restorative circles, meetings with community leaders – Feedback from community that it is currently difficult to share feelings in larger groups of people. Active listening workshop might be included as one of the proposed workshops for the 2024 year.*

*Public Comment:  
None*

## **7. Future Agenda Items/Long Range Calendar**

- *Hate Free Together*
- *Review workplan and calendar items for the 2024 year (December)*
- *California Task Force on Reparations*
- *Webpage Review*
- *MLK Planning (December)*
- *Cesar Chavez Event Planning (December)*
- *Municipal Code Update*
- *Free Speech*
- *Multi-culturalism event for youth in Davis*
- *Critical Race Theory/Ethnic Studies Counter Narrative*

*Public Comment:  
None*

## **8. Adjournment (8:30)**

*The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m. to the special scheduled meeting of December 13, 2023.*