



**City of Davis
Human Relations Commission
Minutes
Thursday, June 27, 2024**

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Baker called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

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

Ex-Officios present Leanne Friedman, Daniel Mojica

Commissioners absent: None

Council Liaisons present: None

Others present: City of Davis staff –Carrie Dyer

2. Approval of Agenda

Pickett moved with second by Wong-Chen approval of the agenda presented with note that new items after 8:30 will require a vote. The motion passed as follows:

AYES: Baker, Gorman, Pickett, Wong-Chen

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners and Liaisons

- Dyer provided an update on status of Chapter 10 Municipal Code revision*
- Dyer provided an on status of reparations task force resolution/commendation.*
- The Hate Free Together Artist initiative was well attended.*
- Welcome to Daniel Mojica, ex-officio for ASUCD*
- Thank you to Leanne Friedman, ex-officio for 11 years*

4. Public Comment

- Erica – Encourages everyone to watch award winning documentary film called Israelism. Encourages commission to continue to educate themselves.*
- Scott Steward – Anti-Semitic policy needs to be well rounded and all dialog considered.*

5. Consent Calendar

A. April 25 Meeting Minutes

Wong-Chen moved with second by Pickett approval of the minutes with a note to fix typos. The motion passed as follows:

AYES: Baker, Gorman, Pickett, Wong-Chen

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

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.

- Encampment at UC Davis came down and there is concern from some members of the Jewish community about chalk paintings that were left behind that were anti-Semitic.*
- Community is experiencing trans-phobia. Trans students are feeling very unsafe. Also experienced at the Pride event. Individuals are getting approached and harassed.*
- Throughout the city and on campus anti-Palestinian harassment taking place.*

Public Comment:

- Ann Block – In respect to Hate Free Together – resources around bias are under the title of anti-Semitism and would suggest that the title be changed and additional resources added. Added different perspective about harassment that people at the encampment experienced. Wasn't reported to police, due to concern about how it would handled.*
- Scott Steward – Encampment signs – in his accounting the majority of the signs were constructive and positive messaging for Palestinians and Jews.*

B. Land Acknowledgment Statement Recommendation

The Commission reviewed current local land acknowledgments and provided recommendations to the City Council on proposed steps and language for an approved land acknowledgment statement to be used by the City of Davis.

- Suggest that Council use land acknowledgment used by other local entities and then create subcommittee to follow up and determine ways to come up with supportive actions to support acknowledgment.*
- Consider changing supportive language that is included on websites of other jurisdictions. City should update and incorporate suggestions from Yoche Dehe Wintun Nation guidance.*
- Provide policy as to when and how the land acknowledgment is put into place, as opposed to being up to the discretion of each function.*

Public Comment:

- None*

Gorman moves with second by Pickett to recommend that the City start using the land acknowledgment language that has been approved by the tribes and used by other local entities and that the HRC will consider creating a subcommittee to further land acknowledgment supportive actions. The motion passes as follows:

AYES: Baker, Gorman, Pickett, Wong-Chen

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

C. Update on Human Relations Commission Function, Resolution and Commissioner Appointments

Staff updated the Commission with recent City Council action on updated commission functions, resolution and commissioner appointments.

- Consideration of budget if additional tasks are asked of the commission*
- Concern that resolution be able to evolve and be updated as needed and recommended by commission to include relevant issues.*
- Workplan can support functions with more specific tasks.*

Public Comment:

- Rahim – Hopes that Commission watched the City Council meeting where Commission appointments were discussed and decided upon.*

D. Schedule and Agenda for possible Special Meeting

The Commission discussed the possibility of holding a special meeting to provide newly on boarded commissioners and current commissioners an opportunity to meet one another and share their interests in Human Relations Commission functions. Staff will send out doodle poll to all commissioners to see what dates are available.

Public Comment:

- None*

E. Committee/Liaison Updates

Committees and Liaisons provided updates as needed

- Campus Council on Community and Diversity (Wong-Chen)*
 - Community book project planning in process. The book chosen for this year is Weathering: The Extraordinary Stress of Ordinary Life in an Unjust Society by Arline Geronimus*

Public Comment:

- None*

7. Future Agenda Items/Long Range Calendar

- Review workplan and calendar items for the 2024 year*
- Land Acknowledgment Subcommittee consideration*
- Hate Free Together Update (August)*
- MLK Planning (August)*
- Celebration Review – create subcommittee (August)*
- Webpage Review*
- Free Speech*

- *Multi-culturalism event for youth in Davis*
- *Critical Race Theory/Ethnic Studies Counter Narrative*

Public Comment:

- *None*

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. to the next regularly scheduled meeting of August 22.