
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

City and County of San Francisco

Regular Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2019

5:30 pm

City Hall Room #416

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place

ROSTER OF COMMISSIONERS

Susan Belinda Christian, *Chair*

Melanie Ampon, Commissioner

Eva Chan, Commissioner

Theodore Ellington, Commissioner

Hala Hijazi, Commissioner

Mark Kelleher, Commissioner

Abigail Porth, Commissioner

Michael Sweet, Commissioner

Sheryl Evans Davis, Executive Director

SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 9, 2019

Present:

Mark Kelleher
Melanie Ampon
Karen Clopton
Jason Pellegrini
Abigail Porth
Joseph Sweiss

Absent:

Susan Belinda Christian
Michael Sweet
Hala Hijazi
Maya Karwande

00:00:05

MARK KELLEHER

I'd like to call to order the San Francisco Human Rights Commission meeting tonight, on Thursday, May 9, 2019, at 5:38 p.m. I am Mark Kelleher, a member of the Commission and substituting as chair this evening for Susan Christian, our Human Rights Commission Chair, who regrets she cannot attend. Madam Secretary, may I--would you call to order the roll of Commissioners?

00:00:35

COMMISSION SECRETARY

Yes. Chair Christian. Vice Chair Sweet. Commissioner Ampon.

00:00:42

MELANIE AMPON

Present.

00:00:43

COMMISSION SECRETARY

Commissioner Clopton.

00:00:44

KAREN CLOPTON

Here.

00:00:45

COMMISSION SECRETARY

Commissioner Hijazi. Commissioner Karwande. Commissioner Kelleher.

00:00:51

MARK KELLEHER

Here.

00:00:52

COMMISSION SECRETARY

Commissioner Pellegrini.

00:00:53

JASON PELLEGRINI

Here.

00:00:54

COMMISSION SECRETARY

Commissioner Porth.

00:00:55

ABIGAIL PORTH

Here.

00:00:56

COMMISSION SECRETARY

Commissioner Sweiss.

00:00:56

JOSEPH SWEISS

Here.

00:00:57 COMMISSION SECRETARY

We have quorum.

00:00:59 MARK KELLEHER

Thank you. Madam Secretary, would you read the second item on the Agenda?

00:01:04 COMMISSION SECRETARY

Adoption of Minutes dated April 25, 2019.

00:01:08 MARK KELLEHER

Commissioners, do you have any edits to the minutes of April 25th? Seeing none, will you call for the approval of the minutes?

00:01:25 COMMISSION SECRETARY

Yes. Motion to adopt?

00:01:27 MARK KELLEHER

Oh, we do have a question. Commissioner Porth.

00:01:30 ABIGAIL PORTH

I was going to move to adopt the minutes.

00:01:33 MARK KELLEHER

Thank you. Do we have a second?

00:01:36 JASON PELLEGRINI

I'll second.

00:01:38 COMMISSION SECRETARY

I'll call roll now. Commissioner Ampon.

00:01:42 MELANIE AMPON

Aye.

00:01:43 COMMISSION SECRETARY

Commissioner Clopton.

00:01:45 KAREN CLOPTON

Aye.

00:01:47 COMMISSION SECRETARY

Commissioner Kelleher.

00:01:48 MARK KELLEHER

Aye.

00:01:49 COMMISSION SECRETARY

Commissioner Pellegrini.

00:01:51 JASON PELLEGRINI

Aye.

00:01:52 COMMISSION SECRETARY

Commissioner Porth.

00:01:54

ABIGAIL PORTH

Oh, aye. Was that me? Sorry. Aye.

00:01:57

COMMISSION SECRETARY

Commissioner Sweiss.

00:01:58

JOSEPH SWEISS

Aye.

00:01:59

COMMISSION SECRETARY

Motion passes.

00:02:01

MARK KELLEHER

Thank you. Madam Secretary, would you read the third item, please?

00:02:05

COMMISSION SECRETARY

Yes. Updates on projects. First up is Juvenile Justice Meetings update presented by staff member Brittni Chicuata.

00:02:19

BRITTONI CHICUATA

Good evening, Commissioners. Brittany Chiquata, Policy Director with the Human Rights Commission. So I just wanted to share some brief updates on behalf of Director Davis, who was selected as a co-chair for the Juvenile Justice Reform blue-ribbon panel that was established by the mayor a couple of weeks ago. She's working in that capacity with Cory Monroe, who's been working in--at juvenile hall and in juvenile justice in some capacity for over a decade. And so we've only had one meeting. The next one is coming up on May 30th. But really the initial meeting was to establish some ground rules, that we are focused on putting youth first, centering youth in the room and really understanding that while there are a number of stakeholders from both the justice side and the advocate side and the city side, what we really need to be focused on is what can we do to prepare and support a whole and healthy child in San Francisco. And, you know, establishing that no matter what side of this argument you're on, no one would say that interfacing with the justice system is what a whole and healthy child in San Francisco needs. And so what are some upstream solutions that we could recommend to the mayor that would intervene at an earlier stage in some--in a young person's life to get them off of a path of being tracked into the justice system or to, at some point, interact with the justice system.

So the objectives of the panel are to create a suite of recommendations for the mayor and the Board of Supervisors. If the mayor does not move them forward, then they would--they would have an opportunity to be moved forward by the Board of Supervisors. And we're working with three different consultants. David Mohammed, James Bell and Shawn Ginwright. And I can answer any questions that the Commission might have about the blue-ribbon panel.

00:04:19

MARK KELLEHER

Are there any questions or comments from the Commissioners?

00:04:26

BRITTONI CHICUATA

Thank you.

00:04:27

MARK KELLEHER

Thank you. I believe we're still waiting for the second presenter. Why don't we just move on to the next item and we can come back. Are there any--is there any public comment at the moment on this item? Seeing none, Madam Secretary, will you read the next item, please?

00:04:47

COMMISSION SECRETARY

The next item is the Chair's Report. Would we like to skip that for tonight's meeting?

00:04:50

MARK KELLEHER

And I think we will skip that since the Chair is not present.

00:04:53

COMMISSION SECRETARY

The next item is Commissioners' Activities in the Community.

00:04:58

MARK KELLEHER

Would the Commissioners like to comment on their activities? Could you--recognizing Commissioner Clopton.

00:05:09

KAREN CLOPTON

Thank you. I just wanted to talk about two community partners that I invited to attend the HRC training on the Race and Foundations, I think is what the workshops are called. And those two community partners are the American Red Cross for the Bay Area and the Junior State of America. And so I've invited both those organizations, their boards of directors, and their senior leadership staff to pick one of the five dates, you know. It's kind of hard to say know when you're giving a lot of option. I want to salute the staff and everyone who has put together these workshops and honed them over the last three years, in their development and everything. And to say, you know, how excited I am to include a wider audience, as well as to, of course, attend again myself and encourage the commissioners to come to one of the dates, as well. Both of these organizations, the American Red Cross, of course, is doing disaster relief for--and preparedness for earthquakes and the fires, et cetera. And, of course, we have house fires every day here in San Francisco. And the American Red Cross is right there to help those who are displaced by disaster, whether it's a house fire or a wildfire. And I think that this workshop in particular, as well as our partnership with them, will help them to deliver services better to a wider, broader community to understand multicultural issues, whether it's when we're providing catering or canteening which is the term in American Red Cross speak. What that means in certain communities, what people eat, what their expectations are, how tribal concerns come into play, as well as racial and ethnic differences. And so communicating and serving across difference I think is extremely important for the Red Cross.

And the other organization, the Junior State of America, is--has two aspects to it. There's a student-run high school organization, where they have non-partisan governmental affairs and political affairs and civic education for high school students to learn how to engage in the American political process. And historically--and it's 85 years old. And historically, it has been a predominantly white organization. And schools throughout America are very segregated. And as a result, our programming in Junior State has become very segregated. So I think attending the HRC workshops will definitely make a difference. Okay. I just wanted to share that with everyone. Thank you.

00:09:00

MARK KELLEHER

Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner Ampon.

00:09:05

MELANIE AMPON

So, some of you may know that I am a part of the Transgender Advisory Committee for the Office of Transgender Initiatives with Claire Farley. I am a part of the planning committee for the trans march this year, and I was also a part of the planning committee for the recent Transgender Day of Visibility that just passed. And what was really exciting about that event that just passed is that we

launched our campaign for our trans home SF, which is a campaign that we presented to the Board of Supervisors last month. We had an advocacy day where community leaders and some people, you know, the movers and shakers in the community came and met with each and every board of supervisor to talk about our campaign. And we are requesting almost--about \$1 million from the city to hopefully end trans and gender non-conforming homelessness for youth in the community at large, hopefully. So that's really exciting. I just wanted to share that with all of you. And hopefully the HRC or any one of you commissioners can be a part of it or support it somehow, and any capacity would be great. Thank you.

00:10:30

MARK KELLEHER

Thank you, Commissioner. Is there any public comment on this item? Seeing none, Madam Secretary, let's go back to Item No. 3. And I see that Danielle Glover is here, the next presenter.

00:10:43

COMMISSION SECRETARY

Mm-hmm. This is Opportunity for All update.

00:10:50

DANIELLE GLOVER

Hi again. Danielle Glover. Sorry for being late. And so I'm here to give you an update on Opportunities for All. So as of this morning, we had 1,090 youth actually that have applied to Opportunities for All. And we did our first info session last week. And so we had over a hundred youth there. So it was a really good turnout, I was really excited. Of course, being really nervous about, like, making sure they get there, right. So it was over a hundred youth. And so that meant that a hundred of--over a--we have over a hundred completely enrolled. So that means all their paperwork is in. And from that hundred, we have 13 matched already ready to go with SFO. So that's a really exciting update, because we have 120 slots with SFO. And so now we have 13 of them filled. And, yes, their commitment is, like, really great. And so last week, we also did an Airbnb open house, where we had about 35 youth actually come and learn about an internship at Airbnb, which was really cool. Like, almost made me want to be like, hey, so... No. but it was really, really cool because it was some things about Airbnb that I didn't even know about, so I know that they were learning about things too. And then the opportunity that they will actually--some of them may be able to get a job there afterwards, right.

And so then yesterday, it is Thursday, yesterday they did their interviews with Airbnb. And so now the next part is them, like, giving us a list so we can make sure that the list lines up with our list and everybody enrolled, and then they don't start until July. But we'll make sure that the youth that are participating in that particular internship has something else to do during that time. And we have seven active Opportunity for All youth actually already placed. It's two in MONS (Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services) and then there's five with Jamestown. So I think--I don't think I missed anything. This just got approved for the employers. So we had one, and I don't know if you guys saw the red one for the youth. Okay. It's almost, like, mirrored except for it's two separate things--I mean a couple of different things that happened for the employers on the checklist than it does for the youth. But I can make sure that you guys get a copy of that, the one for the youth. And then our lovely pamphlet that we just are getting printed for our next info session, which is tomorrow. All right.

00:13:48

MARK KELLEHER

Thank you, Danielle. Very impactful. I'd like to recognize Commissioner Porth.

00:13:54

ABIGAIL PORTH

Just a quick question. I was totally blown away when you said over a thousand students--

00:13:58 DANNIELLE GLOVER

Yes.

00:13:58 ABIGAIL PORTH

--showed up.

00:13:59 DANNIELLE GLOVER

Oh. Well, we have over a thousand students in the system. So that have applied to OFA and they're moving into the next step. But actually of the 1,090, we have about 675 who are, like, in the second phase. So that's--that means that they signed up for information session and that they have, like, collected all of their data that they need to give and paperwork that they need to give to JCYC in order to complete their enrollment, which happens at the info session.

00:14:28 ABIGAIL PORTH

And then how many--do you know how many positions there are going to be available to these students?

00:14:33 DANNIELLE GLOVER

So, I believe we're over, like, 1,200 now. I would have to literally pull up the spreadsheet. But it keeps growing, like we still keep on getting people calling like, oh, I want you to come to my department or I want you to come to my place of business. So it's--

00:14:52 ABIGAIL PORTH

In other words, qualified kids will not be turned away? There's a--

00:14:55 ABIGAIL PORTH

Correct.

00:14:56 ABIGAIL PORTH

--a spot for every child.

00:14:56 DANIELLE GLOVER

Yes. Yeah.

00:14:58 ABIGAIL PORTH

Way to go. That is huge. Congratulations.

00:15:00 DANIELLE GLOVER

Well, thank you.

00:15:02 ABIGAIL PORTH

Thank you. That's spectacular.

00:15:05 KAREN CLOPTON

And the age group again?

00:15:07 DANNIELLE GLOVER

So it's 13 to 24. So we have a specialized program for the 13-year-olds as we know that they are not of working age. They will be participating in a more of a classroom stem program, and then they'll get a stipend at the end. So it's a little different for them, but it's still like a paid opportunity.

00:15:28 KAREN CLOPTON

Nice. Wow. Fabulous.

00:15:32

DANNIELLE GLOVER

Yes, real exciting.

00:15:33

MARK KELLEHER

Any other Commissioner comments? Thank you, Danielle.

00:15:38

DANNIELLE GLOVER

All right. Thank you.

00:15:41

MARK KELLEHER

Any comments from the public? Seeing none, Madam Secretary, would you read the next item?

00:15:48

COMMISSION SECRETARY

Moving on to Item No. 6, Matters of Interest for Possible Inclusion on Future Agendas.

00:15:59

MARK KELLEHER

No comments from the Commissioners. Any public comment? Seeing none, Madam Secretary, will you read the next item?

00:16:06

COMMISSION SECRETARY

No. 7, Adjournment.

00:16:10

MARK KELLEHER

I see no objection to adjourn. Adjournment at--well, the arm just moved on the clock at 5:53.

00:16:21

KAREN CLOPTON

52.

00:16:22

MARK KELLEHER

52. Ahh, 5:52. I was looking at the old-fashion clock. Adjourned.