



# Human Relations Commission

**DATE: 3/25/2021 TIME: 6:00-8:17PM**

**LOCATION: VIRTUAL**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

A. Ayra	L. Scoggins	R. Shirley	J. Rooths	V. Stancil
A. Davis	M. Ahmed	J. Wright	E. Bennett	

**ABSENT:**

K. Barth (Prior Notice)	R. Kanatzar (Prior Notice)	J. Armster (No Prior Notice)	M. Imaku (No Prior Notice)	

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Philip Falcone- Office of the Mayor, Staff	Dan Warren- Riverside Police Dept.	Eric Detmer- Riverside Police Dept.	Lauren Sanchez- City Attorney's Office	

**CALLED TO ORDER: 6:00 – By Chair Ahmed**

1. Public Comment Period:  
No comments.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

2. Election of Officers
  - a. Chair: Commissioner Bennett nominated Commissioner Kanatzar. Commissioner Davis 2nd. Motion passed 8-0.
  - b. Vice Chair: Commissioner Ayra nominated Commissioner Davis. Commissioner Scoggins 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed 8-0.
  - c. Parliamentarian: Commissioner Bennett expressed interest in continuing to serve in this capacity. Commissioner Scoggins nominated Commissioner Bennett to remain as parliamentarian. Commissioner Rooths 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed 8-0.

*6:19pm Vice Chair Davis assumes role as acting-Chair in light of Chair Kanatzar's absence.*



### CONSENT CALENDAR:

3. Commissioner Bennett moved to approve the consent calendar with noted corrections to the minutes. Commissioner Stancil 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed 8-0

*6:30pm Commissioner Shirley entered the meeting.*

### PRESENTATIONS:

4. In place of Police Chief Larry Gonzalez, Lt. Dan Warren provided the Commission with use of force statics. Followed by an in-depth Commissioner question and answer period on topics regarding racism, the trainings RPD administers for employees, and Riverside's police department in comparison to other cities.

### DISCUSSION AND ACTION CALENDAR:

5. April is Celebrate Diversity Month and to commemorate this the Commission sought to have a formal letter sent to the City Council or Mayoral Proclamation. Vice Chair Davis moved to proceed with a proclamation that would be drafted by the Executive Committee before being sent to the City Clerk and Mayor, per standard protocol. The proclamation will be read aloud during an April City Council Meeting with three commissioners (Davis, Ayra, Shirley) partaking in the reading. Moved by Commissioner Davis. Commissioner Scoggins 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed 8-1 with Commissioner Ahmed having audio issues and unable to vote.

*Commissioner Ahmed left the meeting.*

6. Commission discussed the formation of an ad hoc committee to create a formal statement that condemns the recent rise in violence and hate crimes against the AAPI community. Commissioner Scoggins suggested creating HRC buttons that share a message of solidarity against hate. Commissioner Rooths moved to form an ad hoc committee with commissioners (Ayra, Shirley, Wright, Scoggins) having the ability to write and approve a formal HRC statement on the matter and explore the design and production of anti-AAPI hate buttons designed by staff and produced with HRC funds. Commissioner Ayra 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed 8-0.

### COMMUNICATIONS:

7. Staff Update:  
After staff consultation, it is believed that the best course of action for the Trauma Sensitivity Training is for the City's new Diversity Officer to be hired first before action is taken on the implementation of the training since it will be within the jurisdiction of the



new officer and under their guidance, enactment, and maintenance. The City Manager has the ability to direct the Human Resources Director and Diversity Officer to enact the Trauma Sensitivity Training and therefore not dependent on City Council approval. This is because the City Manager oversees all City personnel matters.

8. Commissioner Updates: Commissioners provided updates on meetings and events that they attended.

*Vice Chair Davis and Commissioner Bennett had connectivity issues and left the meeting at 8:12pm. Meeting was stopped due to lack of quorum. The Commission waited five minutes for members to return, only Vice Chair Davis returned, and quorum was not restored.*

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting adjourned at 8:17pm