



HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING MONDAY, February 28, 2022

The Human Rights Commission convened in a regular meeting on Monday, February 28, 2022 at City of Austin Permitting & Development Center, 6310 Wilhelmina Delco Drive, Room 1406, Austin TX 78752.

Chair Sareta Davis called the Board Meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Chair Davis, Vice Chair Casas, Commissioner Areche, Commissioner Brienzi, Commissioner Garry Brown, and Commissioner Weigel.

Staff in Attendance: Andrea Jordan, Investigator, Office of Civil Rights (OCR); Jonathan Babiak, Business Process Consultant, OCR

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

None.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. The minutes from the regular meeting of November 22, 2021 were approved on a vote of 6-0: Chair Davis motion, Commissioner Garry Brown second. Voting in favor were Chair Davis, Vice Chair Casas, Commissioner Areche, Commissioner Brienzi, Commissioner Garry Brown, and Commissioner Weigel. Commissioner Breckenridge, Commissioner Jamarr Brown, Commissioner Caballero, Commissioner Griffith, and Commissioner Museitf were absent.

2. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Presentation by Edna Yang, Co-Executive Director, American Gateways, followed by discussion and possible action regarding an update on the successes of the American Gateways program serving the low income immigrant community and request for support in making immigration legal services a continued priority in the city's budget for next year. (Davis/Casas)

Edna Yang, Co-Executive Director, American Gateways presented to the Commission and answered questions from the Commission. The Commission discussed this item. The Commission took no action on this item.

- b. Discussion and possible action on a recommendation to City Council related to the City of Austin Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget and Strategic Direction 2023: Economic Opportunity and Affordability; Mobility; Safety; Health and Environment; Culture and Lifelong Learning; and Government That Works for All. (Davis/Casas)

The Commission discussed this item. The Commission took no action on this item.

- c. Discussion and possible action on a recommendation to City Council and the City Manager to strengthen policies regarding investigative authority for the City of Austin Office of Police Oversight. (Brown, G./Davis)

The Commission discussed this item. Chair Davis moved to adopt the recommendation, Commissioner Garry Brown second. The recommendation was adopted on a vote of 6-0. Voting in favor were Chair Davis, Vice Chair Casas, Commissioner Areche, Commissioner Brienzi, Commissioner Garry Brown, and Commissioner Weigel. Commissioner Breckenridge, Commissioner Jamarr Brown, Commissioner Caballero, Commissioner Griffith, and Commissioner Museitif were absent.

- d. Discussion and possible action regarding commissioner nominations to the Joint Inclusion Committee. (Davis/Casas)

The Commission discussed this item. The Commission took no action on this item. By unanimous consent, the Commission agreed to return this item to a future agenda.

3. OLD BUSINESS

- a. The Commission discussed the following key priority areas of concern for 2021-2022:
 - i. Institutional Equity
 - ii. Environment & Land Use
 - iii. Health Access & Nutrition
 - iv. Autonomy & Human Rights

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Davis adjourned the meeting at 6:52 p.m. on unanimous consent.