

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING

CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

www.palmspringsca.gov

AGENDA

Monday
December 9, 2019, 3:00 p.m.



Palm Springs City Hall
Large Conference Room

Terrie Andrade
Harold Ames

Ron deHarte, Chair
Glenn Flood

Denise Chappell, Vice Chair
Nicki Randolph

Staff Liaison

Dale Cook, Community Development Administrator

City of Palm Springs Mission Statement: Palm Springs is an inclusive world-class city dedicated to providing excellent and responsive public services to enhance the quality of life for current and future generations.

Please silence electronic devices.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

2. MISSION STATEMENT:

"The Mission of the Palm Springs Human Rights Commission is to promote and protect the diversity of our community and to improve human relations through education and community awareness."

Goals:

- To develop community education programs;
- To investigate and mediate instances of discrimination of groups or individuals;
- To bring persons and groups together in common support of human rights issues;
- To acquire the fiscal and human resources necessary to support and accomplish the work of the Commission;
- To provide management and coordination for the Commission;
- To promote diversity through the appointment of candidates to all city boards and commissions to proportionately reflect the diversity of the population of the City of Palm Springs;
- The Commission and each Committee shall develop goals and objectives annually, for adoption by the commission;
- The Commission shall work closely with the Mayor, City Council, and City Cabinet and with all other City Commissions and Boards in joint endeavors that support the Commission's mission statement and City's goals and objectives.

3. QUORUM:

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Any person who wishes to speak on a topic within the City's jurisdiction during this portion of the agenda must file a "Speaker Card" with the Staff Liaison BEFORE that portion of the agenda is called. [Three (3) minutes per speaker] Although the Commission values your comments, pursuant to the Brown Act, it generally cannot take any action on items not listed on the posted agenda, Commissioners will not enter into discussion with speakers, but during Commission Comments, may refer the

matter to staff for report and recommendation at a future Commission meeting.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October 14th, November 18th
6. COMMISSIONER, STAFF AND STUDENT COMMENTS:
7. GUEST SPEAKER: Palm Springs Unified School District
Tony Signoret, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent
8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:
 - A. Committees – Chair deHarte and Vice Chair Chappell
Community Relations Committee/Budget/Personnel Committee
 - a. PSPD LGBT Outreach Committee (deHarte)
 - b. Master Calendar
 - c. Main Street (deHarte)
 - d. Finance (Randolph)
 - e. Organized Neighborhoods of Palm Springs

Cultural Affairs Committee

 - a. Film Screening (Randolph, Andrade)
 - b. Community Service Awards (deHarte, Chappell, Ames)
 - c. Desert Highland Gateway Estates Community Association (Andrade, Flood)

Seniors/People with Disabilities Veterans Affairs Committee

 - a. Veterans issues (Flood)

Youth/Education Affairs Committee

 - a. Student Representatives (Chappell)

Executive Committee

 - a. (deHarte, Chappell, Andrade)

Commission Development/Mediation Committee

 - a. Mediation (Andrade)
 - b. Retreat (Chappell, deHarte)
 - B. 2020 Calendar
 - C. Human Rights Day
 - D. Topical Newsworthy Items
9. ACTION ITEMS:
 - A. Community Service Awards Slate
10. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT HRC MEETING:
11. ADJOURNMENT: The Commission will adjourn to an adjourned regular meeting Monday, January 13, 2020, at 3:00 p.m. in the Large Conference Room, City Hall, 3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, CA.

The Human Rights Commission regular meetings are aired on the City's PSCTV Channel 17 following the meeting on every Tuesday at 3:00 p.m. and every Saturday at 8:00 a.m.

It is the intention of the City of Palm Springs to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) in all respects. If, as an attendee or a participant at this meeting or in meetings on a regular basis, you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, the City will attempt to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please contact the Department of Community & Economic Development, (760) 323-8321, TDD (760) 864-9527, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to inform us of your particular needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible.

Pursuant to G.C. Section 54957.5 the designated office for inspection of public records in connection with the meeting is the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, California.

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

I, Dale E. Cook, Jr., Community Development Administrator, City of Palm Springs, California, certify this Agenda was posted on or before 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 5, 2019, as required by established policies and procedures. Pursuant to the Government Code Section 54957.5, the designated office for inspection of public records in connection with the public meeting of the Human Rights Commission is the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, at 3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, California.



Dale E Cook, Jr., Community Development Administrator
Community & Economic Development



Human Rights Commission
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA



FOR APPROVAL

MINUTES
Regular Meeting

October 14, 2019
Palm Springs City Hall, Large Conference Room
3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way

	<u>Present This Meeting</u>	<u>Present to Date</u>	<u>FY 2019/2020 Excused Absences</u>	<u>FY 2019/2020 Unexcused Absences</u>
Terri Andrade		2		
Harold Ames	X	1		
Denise Chappell, Vice Chair	X	2	1	
Ron deHarte, Chair	X	3		
Glenn Flood	X	3		
Nicki Randolph		2	1	

Other Staff Present:

Jay Virata, Community & Economic Development Director

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Chair deHarte called the meeting to order at 3:01PM
- 2. MISSION STATEMENT:** *"The mission of the Palm Springs Human Rights Commission is to promote and protect the diversity of our community and to improve human relations through education and community awareness"*
- 3. QUORUM:** Mr. Virata announced that a quorum was present.
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.
- 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** April 8th, May 13th, June 10th

DISCUSSION:

Commissioner Ames – Requested a last name correction be made to minutes of May 13th in the Public Comment Section. Carmina Ceballos to be corrected as Carmina Zavala.

MOTION: By Vice Chair Chappell, Second by Commissioner Flood to approve the minutes of April 8, 2019, May 13, 2019 and June 10 as presented with the correction to May 13.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. COMMISSIONER, STAFF AND STUDENT COMMENTS:

Vice Chair Chappell – The student she had shared last month being interested in applying for Student Representative might have to hold off until next year due to not getting off school until 3:00PM.

Vice Chair Chappell – Announced the following events:

- Anti-Human Trafficking Conference, Friday, October 18 at the Westin Mission Hills Golf Resort & Spa.
- Anti-Human Trafficking Walk, Saturday October 19 from JPL Church to Eisenhower Medical Center.

Posters and Flyers regarding the events were available for Commissioners to take.

Chair deHarte – Thanked the Palm Springs Police Department for organizing and continuing to host the memorial for Officers Gil Vega and Lesley Zerebny.

Mr. Virata – Announced a Commissioner and Board member training put on by the City. A flyer was distributed and is hereby part of the meeting record.

Chair deHarte – Hoped that both Commissioner Flood and Ames would be able to attend to catch it in-person as new Commissioners. The training will be available on-line for those that are not able to attend due to schedules.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR VOTE:

A. Committees – Chair deHarte and Vice Chair Chappell

- **Executive**

Chair deHarte – Stated they would be making their next quarterly appointment for someone to serve on the executive committee. He indicated that Commissioner Andrade had expressed interest at the last meeting and opened the floor to entertain a motion.

MOTION: By Vice Chair Chappell, Second by Commissioner Ames to appoint Commissioner Andrade to serve the next quarter on the Executive Committee with the Co-Chairs.

DISCUSSION: NONE.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **Community Development/Mediation**
No Report.
- **Community Relations/Budget**
No Report.
- **Youth Education Affairs**
No Report.

- **Cultural Affairs**
No Report
- **Veterans, Seniors & Persons with Disabilities**
Commissioner Flood – Stated that he followed-up on Commissioner Andrade’s inquiry and the Commission would not be able to participate in the Veteran’s Day Parade with the American Legion since they are a marching unit.

Commissioner Floods report initiated a small period of comments and questions surrounding the Commission’s participation in the Veteran’s Day Parade, Pride Parade and Black History Parade. Parade participation, supplies and attire was confirmed during this time for the upcoming parades.

- **Ad-Hoc committees as needed**

B. Commissioner Recruitment

Mr. Virata – Stated the City is constantly looking for new Commissioners to fill vacancies, resignations etc. Currently, they do not have any new specific individuals in mind apart from Commissioner Ames.

Chair deHarte – Indicated to folks watching on TV, if they are interested to serve on the Commission there certainly are a few openings and to express interest they could go online through the City website.

C. Topical Newsworthy Items

Commissioner Ames – Commented on community branding he’s seen in other tourism destinations that could possibly be explored.

Vice Chair Chappell – Stated that Commissioner Randolph who is not present today is always thinking of the promotional awareness and would like to have more conversation when she is present since she oversees the branding.

Chair deHarte – Suggested Commissioner Ames serve on the conversation and subcommittee of marketing that falls under Community Relations Umbrella. He further clarified the process to bring ideas forward and have a discussion at the full Commission level.

Commissioner Flood inquired about having name badges that led to Chair deHarte opening the floor to entertain a motion.

MOTION: By Commissioner Flood, Second by Commissioner Ames, to use funds to purchase nametags for each Commissioner.

DISCUSSION: NONE.

MOTION CARRIED UNANMOULSY.

Mr. Virata – The City will be assisting with the name badge order.

8. DAY, TIME, LOCATION AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Chair deHarte - Announced that the next meeting is slated for November 11 which is Veteran's Day and they will actually be marching in the parade. Through Staff guidance, other meeting date opportunities that were open were mentioned.

There was a consensus to reset their meeting date to November 18, 2019 at 3:00PM in the Large Conference Room.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chair deHarte – As an update on Community Development, the LGBT Outreach Committee for the Palm Springs Police Department was informed of a hate crime report that occurred on October 4. A performer at a local restaurant that was attacked by somebody in the public. The suspected hate crime is being investigated.

Chair deHarte – Requested that Commissioner Ames share a little bit about himself so the rest of the Commissioners have a little bit of background and hear what he would like to get out of serving on the Commission.

Commissioner Ames – Is a Veteran who recently relocated from the island of Maui, shared his professional background experience. He wants to help the homeless in the local vicinity and the mental ill, with hopes to contribute to that process and their rights and the rights of others in the community. He is registered as a psychological assistant and working towards hours as a clinical psychologist.

Mr. Virata – Being recently notified, informed the Commission of November 19 as an additional opportunity to meet.

Chair deHarte – Gathered consensus. The next meeting date remained to be to November 18, 2019 at 3:00PM in the Large Conference Room as previously agreed.

10: ADJOURNMENT: The Commission adjourned at 3:32p.m. to an adjourned Regular Meeting, Monday, November 18, 2019, at 3:00 P.M. in the Large Conference Room, City Hall, 3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, CA.

Respectfully submitted,

Annie Rodriguez,
Housing Programs Assistant

**Human Rights Commission
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA**



FOR APPROVAL

**MINUTES
Regular Meeting**

November 18, 2019
Palm Springs City Hall, Large Conference Room
3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way

	<u>Present This Meeting</u>	<u>Present to Date</u>	<u>FY 2019/2020 Excused Absences</u>	<u>FY 2019/2020 Unexcused Absences</u>
Terri Andrade	X	3		
Harold Ames	X	1		
Denise Chappell, Vice Chair	X	3	1	
Ron deHarte, Chair	X	4		
Glenn Flood	X	4		
Nicki Randolph	X	3	1	

Other Staff Present:
Jay Virata, Community & Economic Development Director

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair deHarte called the meeting to order at 3:00PM
2. **MISSION STATEMENT:** *"The mission of the Palm Springs Human Rights Commission is to promote and protect the diversity of our community and to improve human relations through education and community awareness"*
3. **ROLL CALL:** Jay Virata announced that a quorum was present.
4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.
5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** July 8, 2019, September 9, 2019.
MOTION: By Vice Chair Chappell, Second by Commissioner Andrade to approve the minutes of July 8, 2019, September 9, 2019, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
6. **COMMISSIONER, STAFF AND STUDENT COMMENTS:**
Vice Chair Chappell stated that the Commission members walked in the Pride Parade and the Veterans Day Parade.

Chair deHarte reiterated appreciation for everyone who marched in both parades thanking the Commission for the great exposure and community outreach.

7. **GUEST SPEAKER: U.S Department of Justice – Community Relations Service- Marquez Equalibria, Conciliation Specialist.**

Jay Virata called for the speaker who was not present at that moment so the meeting proceeded to item 8A.

8. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR VOTE:**

A. **Committees:**

- **Executive** – Chair deHarte announced that there is no Executive Committee meeting this month, and will resume for the December meeting. He indicated that in Commissioner Andrade's absence she was appointed to the quarter term for the rotating position and thanked her for serving.
- **Community Development/Mediation** – Chair deHarte requested an update on the calendar events that are coming up.

Commissioner Andrade inquired if there was a new calendar printed and distributed.

Vice Chair Chappell would like a group discussion as to who is going to take over specific components of the Commission that do not have Commissioners assigned at this time.

Commissioner Randolph arrived at 3:06pm.

- **Community Relations/Budget** - No comments were made.
- **Youth Education Affairs** – Vice Chair Chappell said a youth had expressed interest in being the representative but is not done with the school day until 3pm. This is the only interested applicant at this point.
- **Senior, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities** – Commissioner Flood stated that he is working on just the Veterans update through the American Legion Post in Palm Springs but does not have anything specific to report on.

Vice Chair Chappell informed the Commission that there is an event in January for youth with disabilities and will bring back discussion to Commission when more information is available.

Chair deHarte inquired if there is a Human Rights Day recognition in December and if the Commission has this on the calendar.

Commissioner Andrade stated that the current calendar expired in June and a new one has not been provided yet by Mr. Cook.

Vice Chair Chappell indicated that there are still tasks to be completed and positions to be filled from the former Commissioners who have since left the Human Rights Commission.

Chair deHarte inquired with Mr. Virata about the calendar being a topic of conversation for a number of meetings and since Mr. Cook has not been able to update the calendar can someone else fill in the updates. Mr. Virata agreed.

Commissioner Randolph updated on the Legacy Film Project. The subcommittee has been very busy meeting with members of Palm Springs community and the Desert Highland Gateway Estates community with good progress being made. There is a date set for Friday February 7th at the Palm Springs Cultural Center, a decision has to still be made on a time and the format. Would like to have it held in the parking lot at no cost to patrons, and include

some type of community entertainment. There will be a VIP reception and a Q&A after the film.

Commissioner Andrade reported on the subcommittee meeting with the Desert Highland Gateway Estates community for purposes of identifying the human rights concerns. They reached out to the staff and the leadership of the James O. Jessie Center, the neighborhood Council, the Palm Springs Police Department who have an assigned officer to the area.

Three major areas of concern in order of priority were:

1. A disproportionate approval of cannabis manufacturing and cultivation.
2. The over policing and disparate treatment of previous offenders.
3. The deteriorating infrastructure and decline of property values due to the community being overlooked for redevelopment or economic improvement projects.

Commissioner Andrade noted that the subcommittee recommended that issue number one referenced be in the selection for the film.

Chair deHarte stated to move forward and find a topical film that fits the category and perhaps reach out to the frequent speakers who attend the meetings about air quality issues.

Commissioner Randolph further commented that the odor of growing and the cultivation of cannabis is a very big issue in front of the City Council right now, and a very current and topical issue for the Desert Highlands community. There is already a growing and manufacturing facility there. This issue needs to be addressed, at the least start a dialog.

Chair deHarte requested for Commissioner Randolph and/or Commissioner Andrade to email a draft summary to him this week of what was presented today so he can provide it to the City Council on behalf of the Commission to reinforce the community's concerns.

B. Topical Newsworthy Items:

Chair deHarte reported that the Transgender Day of Remembrance is on Wednesday November 20th in the City Hall parking lot. The vigil starts at 5:00pm and everyone is welcomed to attend.

Chair deHarte thanked Mr. Virata and Ms. Rodriguez for the new Commission badges that he distributed.

Commissioner Randolph welcomed Commissioner Ames as the new member of the Commission and was pleased that he expressed an interest in joining Commissioner Andrade and herself in a possible Community Relations Budget meeting.

Commissioner Ames accepted the offer to officially join the subcommittee.

9. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Community Service Awards Application Process:

Chair deHarte discussed the application process commencing at this time of year and provided an overview of the Community Service Awards. A press release is issued. Applications can be submitted to Dale Cook's email address to be collected. The Subcommittee will meet sometime in early December prior to the next Regular Meeting to review the applications. At the January meeting, the full Commission will receive the slate of suggested nominees for approval. The honorees will then be notified for the February presentation. Awards are presented at the February 10th meeting. This process has been done for approximately 27 years, and on behalf of the Human Rights Commission and the City of Palm Springs this is an opportunity to be able to give recognition to those who give

community service. Chair deHarte inquired if anyone on the Commission was interested in being on the subcommittee to review the applications which is only done once a year. With Commissions approval, the application will be posted online.

Commissioner Randolph stated it's a wonderful event to be involved with. Jay Virata to ensure that the list of last year's winners are included on the website.

Commissioner Ames expressed interest to serve on the Community Service Awards Subcommittee and was appointed.

MOTION: By Vice Chair Chappell, Second by Commissioner Flood to accept the application as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

10. **AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING:**

Chair deHarte commented that a teacher has been speaking out and a letter was printed in the newspaper in regards to a teacher being bullied in our district. The concern being raised to the Commission is about what's being done by the Palm Springs Unified School District to ensure that the Fair Education Act sets law, and the school's Success and Opportunity Act which are three policies/laws that are in place, are enforced within the school district. There are some concerns as to how the school district is enforcing these laws, and how can we get teachers the support needed as part of the LGBTQ community. He would like to add this topic to the upcoming agenda and invite a schoolboard representative who can share what the school district policy is for enforcing these three specific acts within the state of California.

Commissioner Randolph suggested inviting both sides of discussion to present a fair assessment of the issue at hand.

A brief period of comments and questions followed.

Chair deHarte announced that the meeting will revert to agenda item 7 and introduced the guest speaker Marquez Equalibria, Conciliation Specialist.

Mr. Equalibria spoke on behalf of the U.S Department of Justice, Community Relations Service Agency which has been in place since 1964 as a conflict resolution agency with no law enforcement powers assisting communities with conflicts that have elements of tensions based on various socioeconomic, LGBTQ, religious, and disability differences. The services are free of charge and confidential. Emphasis is primarily on facilitating dialogues and design processes to problem-solve, mediation, educate, and provide technical assistance and consultation. Services are provided to various entities dealing with any type of an issue from hate crimes, to training and building relationships in conflict resolutions. Comments and questions were presented to the guest speaker from the Commission.

Chair deHarte continued with the agenda meeting items for the next meeting. No items identified. .

12. **ADJOURNMENT:** The Commission adjourned at 3:58 p.m. to an adjourned Regular Meeting, Monday, December 9, 2019, at 3:00 P.M. in the Large Conference Room, City Hall, 3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, CA.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Carroll
Economic Development Assistant

CITY OF PALM SPRINGS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION 2019-20 MEETING CALENDAR

REGULAR MEETING DATE	TIME	LOCATION	PARADES & SPECIAL EVENTS
Monday, July 8, 2019	3:00 PM	PSFD Training Facility	Pride Parade
Monday, August 12, 2019	3:00 PM	PSFD Training Facility	Veteran's Day Parade
Monday, September 9, 2019	3:00 PM	Large Conference Room	Legacy Film Project
Monday, October 14, 2019	3:00 PM	Large Conference Room	Community Service Awards**
Monday, November 18, 2019	3:00 PM	Large Conference Room	Black History Month Parade
Monday, December 9, 2019	3:00 PM	Large Conference Room	ONE-PS Picnic & Community Expo
Monday, January 13, 2020	3:00 PM	Large Conference Room	Harvey Milk Diversity Breakfast
Monday, February 10, 2020	3:00 PM	City Council Chamber**	
Monday, March 9, 2020	3:00 PM	Large Conference Room	SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, April 13, 2020	3:00 PM	Large Conference Room	■ Afford. Hsg. & Homelessness Standing Subcommittee
Monday, May 11, 2020	3:00 PM	Large Conference Room	■ ONE-PS
Monday, June 8, 2020	3:00 PM	Large Conference Room	■ Main Street

■ PSPD LGBTQ Community Outreach	3 rd Thurs. of Every Month / 4PM
■ Desert Highland Gateway Estates Community Association	2 nd Tues. of Every Month / 7PM

Due to holidays, special meetings, rescheduling or cancellations all meetings are SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

JULY							AUGUST							SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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17	18																																								

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL							MAY							JUNE						
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THE COMMISSION ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING AS DATES OF AWARENESS:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| January 24 International Day of Education | April 28 World Day for Safety and Health at Work | June 20 World Refugee Day |
| February 20 Word Day of Social Justice | May 16 International Day of Living Together in Peace | June 23 United Nations Public Service Day |
| March 01 Zero Discrimination Day | May 17 International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia & Biphobia | July 30 World Day against Human Trafficking |
| April 07 World Health Day | May 21 International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia & Biphobia | December 10 Human Rights Day (Recognition/observance) |

**City of Palm Springs
2020 City Council Regular Meeting Days**

MEETING DATES	CANCELLATION/RESCHEDULE
2 nd Thursday, January 9, 2020	
4 th Thursday, January 23, 2020	Rescheduled to 5 th Thursday, January 30, 2020
2 nd Thursday, February 13, 2020	
4 th Thursday, February 27, 2020	
2 nd Thursday, March 12, 2020	
4 th Thursday, March 26, 2020	
2 nd Thursday, April 9, 2020	Cancelled
4 th Thursday, April 23, 2020	
2 nd Thursday, May 14, 2020	Rescheduled to 1 st Thursday, May 7, 2020
4 th Thursday, May 28, 2020	Rescheduled to 3 rd Thursday, May 21, 2020
2 nd Thursday, June 11, 2020	
4 th Thursday, June 25, 2020	
2 nd Thursday, July 9, 2020	
4 th Thursday, July 23, 2020	
2 nd Thursday, August 12, 2020	Cancelled
4 th Thursday, August 26, 2020	Cancelled
2 nd Thursday, September 10, 2020	Rescheduled to 1 st Thursday, September 3, 2020
4 th Thursday, September 24, 2020	Rescheduled to 3 rd Thursday, September 17, 2020
2 nd Thursday, October 8, 2020	
4 th Thursday, October 22, 2020	
2 nd Thursday, November 12, 2020	
4 th Thursday, November 26, 2020	Cancelled
2 nd Thursday, December 10, 2020	
4 th Thursday, December 24, 2020	Cancelled
2 nd Thursday, January 13, 2021	
4 th Thursday, January 27, 2021	

Adopted by City Council on November 6, 2019