



Alameda County Human Relations Commission

Meeting Minutes for

Wednesday, January 28, 2026 6:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.



Attendance by Commission Members:

Tejinder Dhami, Holdover Chair – District 1 – In Person

Marie Gilmore – District 1 – In Person

Loc Nguyen – District 1 – In Person

Mian Shahbaz – District 2 – Absent Unexcused

Smile Dhir – District 2 – Absent Unexcused

Shamsa Rafay – In Person

Liliana Blanco – In Person

Rayna Lett – In Person

Anita Battle – In Person

Miguel Dwin – Absent Unexcused

Prem Pariyar – Absent Unexcused

Vacant – District 4

Vacant – District 4

Vacant – District 4

Vacant – District 5

Vacant – Mayors Conference

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 P.M.

2. Designation of Commissioner to Record Meeting Minutes

A request for a volunteer to record meeting minutes due to Secretary position being vacant. Commissioner Blanco agreed to serve as minute taker for this meeting.

3. Review and Approval of Agenda

Motion to Approve Agenda: Commissioner Blanco

Second: Commissioner Rafay

Vote: Motion approved unanimously.

4. Commission Updates

- Commissioners that have resigned since last meeting: District 3 Commissioner Roberts, District 3 Commissioner Maxey, District 5 Commissioner Singh.
- Introductions of new commissioners: District 1 Commissioner Nguyen, District 2 Commissioner Shahbaz, District 3 Commissioner Battle, District 3 Commissioner Blanco
- Agendas have a new/updated look/design for greater accessibility

5. Commission Officer Positions

Chair: Motion to appoint Commissioner Rafay as Commission Chair.

Second: Commissioner Battle

Vote: Motion approved unanimously.

Vice Chair: Motion to appoint Commissioner Nguyen as Commission Vice Chair.

Second: Commissioner Blanco

Vote: Motion approved unanimously.

Secretary/Treasurer: Motion to appoint Commissioner Battle as Commission Secretary/Treasurer.

Second: Commissioner Blanco

Vote: Motion approved unanimously.

Member at Large: Motion to appoint Commissioner Blanco as Commission Member at Large.

Second: Commissioner Nguyen

Vote: Motion approved unanimously.

6. Review of Commissioner Responsibilities

Review of commissioner roles, expectations, and responsibilities, including service and participation, meeting attendance requirements, and standards of conduct during meetings. Commissioners discussed attendance expectations, resignation procedures, and compliance with Commission bylaws, the Ralph M. Brown Act, and Robert's Rules of Order.

7. Commission Planning and Operations

Review and approval of 2026 meeting dates

Motion to approve 2026 Commission meeting calendar: Commissioner Rafay

Second: Commissioner Battle

Vote: Motion approved unanimously.

Discussion and clarification on Commission meeting time.

Motion to set meeting time from 6:30 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. – Commissioner Rafay

Second: Commissioner Gilmore

Vote: Motion approved unanimously.

Discussed the upcoming appointment of a Human Relations Commission representative to the Commission on the Status of Women. Information was provided regarding the appointment cycle, meeting schedule, and term length through June 2027.

Commissioners received information regarding upcoming Ralph M. Brown Act training opportunities to be provided in coordination with County Counsel.

8. Commission Budget

Social Services Agency staff presented information regarding the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025–2026 budget and planning considerations for the FY 2026–2027 budget.

Commissioners discussed budget timelines, allowable expenditures, and planning for future initiatives and community events. Staff noted that the current fiscal budget runs through June, with a recommendation that most funds be expended by the end of May. The upcoming Women's Hall of Fame event scheduled for March 20 was referenced as part of current budget planning.

Social Services Agency staff would explore commission suggestion for potential scholarship and sponsorship opportunities.

Commissioners were asked to identify and bring forward ideas for events, community initiatives, or programs that the Commission may wish to support through the current or upcoming budgets prior to the next meeting.

9. Commission Priorities and Bylaws/Administrative Code Updates

Social Services Agency staff facilitated a discussion regarding updates to the Administrative Code, proposed revisions to the Commission's bylaws, platform priorities for 2026, and the development of community agreements.

Staff noted that the Commission's bylaws require updates to align with current practices and the Administrative Code. Jennifer will prepare a preliminary draft of proposed bylaw revisions for commissioner review and will identify sections that may conflict with the Administrative Code.

Commissioners agreed to continue discussion of Human Relations Commission platform priorities for 2026 at the next regular meeting.

Commissioners also discussed the need to develop community agreements to establish shared norms and expectations for Commission engagement and collaboration.

Community Agreements

10. Agenda Building

No items were brought forward for future agenda consideration.

11. Public Comment

No public speakers were present.

12. Appreciations, Closing, and Adjournment

Social Services Agency staff expressed appreciation to the Commissioners for their attendance and participation.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 P.M.