



Alameda County Human Relations Commission

Meeting Minutes for



Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 6:30 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.

Attendance by Commission Members:

Present:

- Shamsa Rafay, Chairperson – District 2
- Loc Nguyen, Vice Chair – District 1
- Anita Battle, Secretary/Treasurer – District 3
- Liliana Blanco, Member at Large – District 3
- Tejinder Dhami (TJ) – District 1
- Marie Gilmore – District 1
- Rayna Lett – District 3

Absent:

- Smile Dhir – District 2
- Miguel Dwin – District 5
- Prem Pariyar – District 5

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 P.M.

2. Review and Approval of Agenda

Motion to Approve Agenda: Commissioner Liliana

Second: Commissioner Marie

Vote: Motion approved unanimously

3. Review and Approval of Minutes

Motion to Approve Minutes: Commissioner Liliana

Second: Commissioner Marie

Vote: Motion approved unanimously

4. Commission Announcements and Updates

- Commissioner Liliana
 - Potential engagement opportunities with Roots, who recently became sponsors to the Australian Futbol Team
 - They plan to participate with Black Joy Parade Co-founders in their strategic planning in expanding their mission beyond Oakland
- Commissioner Rayna
 - Rayna will receive the Woman of the Year Award in Sacramento in March
- Commissioner Anita
 - Attended the City of Alameda, sponsored free screening of “The Apology” at the Alameda Theatre. The documentary examines the 1960s dismantling of Russell City, when Alameda County and the City of Hayward displaced 1,400 residents to make way for an industrial park.
- Commissioner Shamsa
 - Working with League of Women Voters on their voter registration drives in the Tri-City high schools
 - Toured the East Bay Regional Parks for a Black History hike in Hayward
- Commissioner TJ
 - Shared attending the March CA Dem SF Convention in his role as a CA Dem delegate

- Commissioner Loc
 - Received a call from Cathy Kimberlin, Fremont city Council seeking help/ideas in how to scale their veteran program lead by aging veteran

Mian has not completed is oath and was unable to vote during the meeting

5. Updates on Previous Meeting Items

- Brown Act Meeting – Date pending County Council confirmation
- Working Meal for Commissioners is in progress
- Scholarships for students or nonprofit organizations is inconclusive due to receiving conflicting information
- Bylaws updates will be presented in March

6. Human Relations Commission Budget Plan

- Discussion and planning regarding the expenditure of the 2025-2026 budget
- Discussion and planning of fiscal year 2026-2027 budget

7. 2026 – 2027 Commission Platform Priorities

- Discussion and Identification of Human Relations Commission Platform Priorities
 - Priorities will be aligned with budgetary allocations
 - Focus meeting on allocating 2025 - 2026 Budget (spend by May 2026) and defer 2026 - 2027 to March meeting
 - Agreement **#1 Event** - [Women's Hall of Fame](#)
 - [Women's Hall of Fame](#) **\$1,500 Sponsorship** which includes 5 tickets
 - The Club at Castlewood in Pleasanton, California on Saturday, March 28, 2026
 - Tickets: Commissioner Loc+1, Commissioner TJ+1, Anita (Liliana-optional) will attend
 - The sponsorship leaves a \$500 decrease in the events category

Motion to shift the \$500 to the outreach category: Commissioner Liliana

Second: Commissioner Marie

Vote: Motion approved unanimously

- Agreement **#2 Event Retreat**
 - Proceed with agreed upon \$1,000 for Commissioners' Retreat
- Agreement **#3 Outreach**
 - Budget increased from \$3,650 to \$4,150 with the Agreement #1 motion

- Agreement to identify seven human centered 503c Alameda County that align with the commission's mission to receive grants
- Each commissioner recommended an organization to receive \$592.85 except Reading Literacy receives \$1,185.71 as two commissioners recommended the same program

Motion to shift the \$500 to the outreach category: Commissioner Liliana

Second: Commissioners Loc and Commissioner Loc

Vote: Motion approved unanimously

o Organizations nominated:

- Reach Out & Read (Alameda County: children's reading literacy) – Commissioner Marie, Commissioner Anita*
- Abode (TriCity: homelessness) – Commissioner Shamsa
- Need to Believe (TriCity: Special needs children) – Commissioner Loc
- Unity Council (Oakland: children, families, seniors) – Commissioner Liliana
- EOYDC (Oakland: youth training & development) – Commissioner Rayna
- Fremont Housing Navigations Center (TriCity) – Commissioner TJ*
- Motion to divide equally \$4,150 amongst the six organizations

Motion to approve usages of funds [as outlined above] for the various organizations:

Commissioner Marie

Second: Commissioner Lock

Vote: Motion approved unanimously

*After meeting research determined these orgs do not meet HRC criteria

- **Agreement #4 Membership - CAHRO**

Motion to move this component \$200 to outreach for Human Relations outreach material:

Commissioner Marie

Second: Commissioner Liliana

Vote: Motion approved unanimously

- o Agreement to place order now because of the latent order/delivery process
 - Order HRC logo notebooks and pens
- o Agreement **#5 Technical - Social Media**
 - Proceed with agreed upon \$500 for technical services/training
- o Agreement **#6 Other**
 - Proceed with agreed upon \$650 Food for Commissioners' Meetings
- o Agreement **#7 Event Annual Excellence In HR Awards Lunch**
 - \$7,000 must be invoiced by May 31, 2026

- Prioritize this for March agenda
- Downsize the event
 - Use Alameda County facility (free or inexpensive)
- Reception with light bites/desserts/beverages
- Consideration: How to promote/elevate Alameda County work
 - Awards/certificates and donation to 503c on behalf of the awardee

Motion approve 2025-2026 Budget: Commissioner Marie

Second: Commissioner Rayna

Vote: Motion approved unanimously

8. Commissioner Attendance Compliance Review and Discussion of Next Steps

- Discussion and review of commissioner attendance records and responsibilities
- Currently three (3) commissioners on the commission have been non-responsive to communications, have failed to attend commission meetings, have not met expectations/requirements to perform the duties of an Alameda County Human Relations Commissioner.

Motion for Social Services Agency staff to draft a memorandum to supervisors naming their appointed commissions and requesting removal: Commissioner Anita

Second: Commissioner Marie and Commissioner TJ

Vote: Motion approved unanimously

9. Agenda Building

- Agenda items for March
 - o Annual Excellence In HR Awards Lunch
 - o HRC promotion order (pens, notebooks, etc.)
 - o 2026 - 2027 Budget

10. Public Comment

No public comment

11. Appreciations, Closing, and Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm