



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS  
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
LGBTQ+ COMMISSION  
KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 140A  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012**

**Tuesday, August 20, 2024**

**9:30 AM**

AUDIO LINK FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING (24-3592)

**Attachments:** [AUDIO](#)

**I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Land Acknowledgment. (24-3379)

**Sunitha Menon, Executive Director, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.  
Ivonne Umana, administrative staff, called the roll.**

Present: Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen,  
Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha  
Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner  
Hector Trinidad Plascencia, Commissioner Ed Reece,  
Commissioner Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Terra  
Russell-Slavin, Commissioner H. Eric Schockman, Commissioner  
Alejandro Soria and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

**A quorum was established, and Sunitha Menon, Executive Director, read  
the Los Angeles County Land Acknowledgment. Commissioner Abraham  
arrived at 9:36 a.m.**

**II. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

2. Approval of the July 16, 2024, regular meeting minutes. (24-3380)

**No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.**

**On motion of Commissioner Reece, seconded by Commissioner Rogers, and duly carried, the July 16, 2024, regular Meeting minutes were approved by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** 11 - Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Hector Trinidad Plascencia, Commissioner Ed Reece, Commissioner Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner H. Eric Schockman, Commissioner Alejandro Soria and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham

**Attachments:** [JULY 16, 2024, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES](#)  
[PUBLIC COMMENT / WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

**III. DISCUSSIONS AND ACTIONS**

3. Discussion and take appropriate action on the following Commissioners' nominations and Election of Officers:
- a. Chair
    - i. Commissioner Khan-Valbuena
    - ii. Commissioner Plascencia
    - iii. Commissioner Reece
    - iv. Commissioner Russell-Slavin
  - b. Vice Chair
    - i. Commissioner Khan-Valbuena
    - ii. Commissioner Plascencia
    - iii. Commissioner Reece
    - iv. Commissioner Rogers
    - v. Commissioner Schockman
  - c. Second Vice Chair
    - i. Commissioner Arnzen
    - ii. Commissioner Khan-Valbuena
    - iii. Commissioner Martinez
    - iv. Commissioner Plascencia
    - v. Commissioner Reece

- vi. Commissioner Rogers
- vii. Commissioner Russell-Slavin
- viii. Commissioner Schockman
- ix. Commissioner Vasquez (24-3381)

**Each candidate provided a brief background of their work, personal and professional life, and responded to Commissioner Rogers' question "How linked are you into the Community?"**

**Members of the public: Byron Jose, Jackie Steele, and Maya Daniels addressed the Commission on this item.**

**Commissioner Martinez removed his nomination for Second Vice Chair.**

**On motion of Commissioner Schockman, seconded by Commissioner Arnzen, and duly carried, the nominations for the positions of Chair, Vice Chair, and Second Vice Chair were closed:**

**Ayes:** 12 - Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Hector Trinidad Plascencia, Commissioner Ed Reece, Commissioner Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner H. Eric Schockman, Commissioner Alejandro Soria and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

**On motion of Commissioner Abraham, seconded by Commissioner Rogers, and duly carried, the floor opened for election of Chair:**

**Ayes:** 12 - Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Hector Trinidad Plascencia, Commissioner Ed Reece, Commissioner Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner H. Eric Schockman, Commissioner Alejandro Soria and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

**Commission Staff tallied the following votes for position of Chair: Commissioner Khan Valbuena - 2; Commissioner Plascencia - 6; Commissioner Reece -4; and Commissioner Russell Slavin - 0.**

**On motion of Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Khan-Valbuena, and duly carried, Commissioner Plascencia was voted as Chair of the Commission:**

**Ayes:** 12 - Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Hector Trinidad Plascencia, Commissioner Ed Reece, Commissioner Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner H. Eric Schockman, Commissioner Alejandro Soria and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

**On motion of Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Arnzen, and duly carried, the floor opened for election of Vice Chair:**

**Ayes:** 12 - Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Hector Trinidad Plascencia, Commissioner Ed Reece, Commissioner Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner H. Eric Schockman, Commissioner Alejandro Soria and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

**Commission Staff tallied the following votes for position of Vice Chair: Commissioner Khan-Valbuena -1; Commissioner Reece - 0, Commissioner Rogers - 10, and Commissioner Schockman - 1.**

**On motion of Commissioner Arnzen, seconded by Commissioner Soria, and duly carried, the Commissioner Rogers was voted as Vice Chair of the Commission:**

**Ayes:** 12 - Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Hector Trinidad Plascencia, Commissioner Ed Reece, Commissioner Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner H. Eric Schockman, Commissioner Alejandro Soria and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

**On motion of Commissioner Arnzen, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, and duly carried, the floor opened for election of Second Vice Chair:**

**Ayes:** 12 - Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Hector Trinidad Plascencia, Commissioner Ed Reece, Commissioner Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner H. Eric Schockman, Commissioner Alejandro Soria and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

**Commission Staff tallied the following votes for position of Second Vice Chair: Commissioner Arnzen - 1; Commissioner Khan-Valbuena - 2; Commissioner Reece - 0; Commissioner Russell-Slavin - 5; Commissioner Schockman - 0; and Commissioner Vasquez - 4.**

**On motion of Vice Chair Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Fisher, and duly carried, Commissioner Russell-Slavin was voted as Second Vice Chair:**

**Ayes:** 12 - Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Hector Trinidad Plascencia, Commissioner Ed Reece, Commissioner Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner H. Eric Schockman, Commissioner Alejandro Soria and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

**Attachments:** [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)  
[PUBLIC COMMENT / WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

4. Discussion and take appropriate action on the LGBTQ+ Commission logo options. (24-3382)

**No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.**

**After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Abraham, seconded by Vice Chair Rogers, and duly carried, the Commission requested modifications to the following LGBTQ+ draft logos: A1C, A8B, A8C and A10B, and was requested that the revised logos be presented on the next meeting for discussion and further action:**

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**Ayes:** 11 - Chair Hector Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner H. Eric Schockman, Commissioner Alejandro Soria and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Ed Reece

**In addition, on motion of Commissioner Arnzen, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, and duly carried, the Commission removed LGBTQ+ logos: A1B, A4B and A4C:**

**Ayes:** 10 - Chair Hector Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Alejandro Soria and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

**Abstentions:** 1 - Commissioner H. Eric Schockman

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Ed Reece

**Attachments:** [SUPPORTING DOCUMENT](#)  
[PUBLIC COMMENT / WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

COMMISSION RECESS

**The Commission took a recess at 11:19 a.m. and resumed at 11:31 a.m., when a quorum was established. The rest of the members arrived by 11:36**

- 5.** Discussion and take appropriate action on the following ad hoc subcommittees:
- October LGBTQ+ History Month
  - Commissioner Selection and Interview Process for At Large Members
  - Strategic Planning, Vision, Mission, and Tenets (24-3383)

**Member of the public: Byron Jose addressed the Commission on this item.**

**Sunitha Menon, Executive Director, provided a brief description of each adhoc subcommittee's duties and responsibilities. After discussion, the following commissioners volunteered to be part of one of the following adhoc subcommittees:**

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- a. **October LGBTQ+ History Month ad hoc committee: Commissioner Schockman, Commissioner Soria and Commissioner Martinez;**
  - b. **Commissioner Selection and Interview Process for At Large Members ad hoc committee: Vice Chair Rogers, Commissioner Schockman and Commissioner Khan-Valbuena; and**
  - c. **Strategic Planning, Vision, Mission, and Tenets ad hoc committee: Commissioner Schockman, Commissioner Fisher, Commissioner Abraham, 2nd Vice Chair Russell-Slavin.**

**On motion of Commissioner Abraham, seconded by Commissioner Arnzen, and duly carried, the Commission approved the ad hoc subcommittee members:**

**Ayes:** 12 - Chair Hector Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arnzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Ed Reece, Commissioner H. Eric Schockman, Commissioner Alejandro Soria and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

**Attachments:** [PUBLIC COMMENT / WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

- 6. Discussion and take appropriate action to send a letter to former Commissioner, Ellie Perez, congratulating her on her new role as Executive Director of the Long Beach LGBTQ Center. (24-3384)

**No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.**

**After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Reece, seconded by Commissioner Arnzen, and duly carried, the Commission approved sending a letter to former Commissioner Ellie Perez, congratulating on her new role as Executive Director of the Long Beach LGBTQ Center:**

**Ayes:** 11 - Chair Hector Trinidad Plascencia, Vice Chair Sydney Rogers, Second Vice Chair Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Ed Reece, Commissioner H. Eric Schockman, Commissioner Alejandro Soria and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

**Noes:** 1 - Commissioner Nic Arnzen

**Attachments:** [PUBLIC COMMENT / WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

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7. Discussion and take appropriate action to approve a moment of silence at all meetings to pay respect to those members of the LGBTQ+ community who have lost their lives based on their sexual orientation, gender identity, gender presentation, or any other reason related to their LGBTQ+ identities. (24-3385)

**No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.**

**After discussion, on motion of Commissioner Schockman, seconded by Commissioner Reece, and duly carried, the Commission approved a moment of silence at all meetings with an amendment to place this "moment of silence" after the reading of the Land Acknowledgment:**

**Ayes:** 11 - Commissioner Jerry P. Abraham, Commissioner Nic Arzen, Commissioner Steven Fisher, Commissioner Eddie Martinez, Commissioner Hector Trinidad Plascencia, Commissioner Ed Reece, Commissioner Sydney Rogers, Commissioner Terra Russell-Slavin, Commissioner H. Eric Schockman, Commissioner Alejandro Soria and Commissioner Luis Vasquez

**Noes:** 1 - Commissioner Talha Khan-Valbuena

**Attachments:** [PUBLIC COMMENT / WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

#### **IV. MISCELLANEOUS**

##### **Matters Not Posted**

8. Matters not posted: Matters not on the posted agenda, to be presented and (if requested) referred to staff or placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting of the LGBTQ+ Commission, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take immediate action came to the attention of the LGBTQ+ Commission subsequent to the posting of the agenda.

- a. Discussion and take appropriate action on subcommittee topics. (24-3386)

**No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.**

**Commissioner Abraham requested discussion on a process or protocol for commissioners to approve the use of funds allocated to each commissioner when attending LGBTQ+ Commission events and/or activities, with funding to be retroactive from July 1, 2024, through 2025.**

**Commissioner Schockman requested discussion on the hiring of staff for the LGBTQ+ Commission and the LGBTQ+ Commission's budget.**



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**Commissioner Schockman requested discussion on proposing a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors on a monument for the fallen Veterans including LGBTQ+ veterans, who have died in the County of Los Angeles, commemorating their services in the arm forces.**

**Commissioner Arnzen requested discussion on a process or clarification when proposing to send out correspondence on behalf of the commission.**

**Commissioner Abraham requested discussion on creating a Community Advisory Board to reflect the community and have the LGBTQ+ Community involved in the Commissions' work.**

**Attachments:** [PUBLIC COMMENT / WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

### **Public Comment**

- 9.** Opportunity for members of the public to address the LGBTQ+ Commission on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the LGBTQ+ Commission. (24-3387)

**No members of the public addressed the Commission on this item.**

**Attachments:** [PUBLIC COMMENT / WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE](#)

### **Adjournment**

- 10.** Adjournment for the August 20, 2024, LGBTQ+ Commission meeting. (24-3388)

**Sunitha Menon, Executive Director, adjourned the meeting at 12:21 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.**