

Public Comment #17
BOS Acc'd. 3-14-23

From: Kristy M <kct@juno.com>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 4:01 PM
To: BOS-Clerk of the Board
Subject: Human Rights Commission (HRC) / Agenda Item File#23-0283 for 3/14/23 BOS Meeting

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To the Clerk of the Board and the Board of Supervisors,

Any member of the Board who votes for dissolution of the Human Rights Commission (HRC) is saying to the world that he/she disavows tolerance and mutual respect among all persons, he/she does not foster peaceful relations, and he/she does not care to preserve the public peace among residents of different races, religions, national origins -- all of which are expressly stated as the purpose of the commission (Sec 2.20.1101 of the ordinance). Is this truly the message you want to send to your constituents? Seriously?

Several other commenters have pointed out the legal reasons for keeping the Human Rights Commission intact, and whether or not I agree with them (*which I do*) is beside the point - El Dorado County has a legal obligation to maintain a Human Rights Commission, period. If it's broke, then FIX IT. I also understand that the idea of dissolving the HRC may have begun as a conversation about the lack of a 2nd BOS member willing to serve as liaison with the HRC but that Supervisor Laine has voiced interest in holding that 2nd position, so where did push for total annihilation come from?

I am incensed that someone who does not hold those minimum human values "represents" me, and come next election cycle will volunteer to campaign for individuals who DO hold those values. I am very sad that I did campaign in the past for one Board member who apparently does not.

Kristy McKay
Georgetown, CA

**"A candle is a small thing.
But one candle can light another.
And see how its own light increases,
as a candle gives its flame to the other."**

~ Moshe Davis ~

From: Dan King <chumpy@mindspring.com>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 4:06 PM
To: BOS-Clerk of the Board
Subject: RE: agenda item 23-0283

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Dear Supervisors,

I urge the Board of Supervisors to keep the Human Rights Commission. Our county needs it as a voice for vulnerable people in our county to have their voices heard.

Let's do the right thing and help El Dorado County to be a safe and welcoming place for all.

Sincerely,

Daniel King
El Dorado Hills resident

From: Dawn Wolfson <dewolfson@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 4:14 PM
To: BOS-Clerk of the Board
Subject: Tomorrow's agenda item 17. 23-0283

Regarding the Human Right's Commission

All,

I really don't understand why this board would want to disband this commission in this way. None of it makes any sense to me, other than possibly political pressure from the same people who are feeling picked on for getting called out for their association with a local group that has chosen to take on the name of a national hate group.

Things were said in the January meeting where staff was asked to come back with a resolution disbanding the commission that are either not true or not thought through.

The complaint that the HRC intended to reach out to a local native American group with which the county has a liaison neglects to mention that one of the supervisors on the commission suggested they do so. Do our supervisors not talk to one another?

The comment that the HRC has done nothing over the last 4 years, not true. Granted, while they were disbanded because of Covid, they were forced to be inactive. But in addition to last year's homeless forum, which was very well done, they have had presentations every month (Native American month, for example), and a very successful public Human Right's forum in 2019.

The board wants to replace the commission with a non-profit, but has done nothing to reach out to the non-profit that was mentioned to see if it is even feasible to transition this function.

It was stated that two supervisors were needed on the commission, and we have two supervisors who are willing to do so.

The commission was not given the opportunity to respond to any of the objections that were mentioned in the January meeting.

The county needs this commission. From racial slurs painted on the Sleepy Hollow bridge a few years ago, to the very recent lawsuit against EDUHSD by a student who experienced terrible treatment at one of our local high schools, to the truly mean and heartless remarks people have made about our homeless neighbors, it is truly apparent that the time to do away with this commission is not yet, or any time soon.

This is not a step forward. It is a step backwards. Disbanding this commission tells the people who have tagged that bridge, harassed that student, maligned all homeless people as druggies, etc. that what they are doing is OK. Please don't do this.

Thank you,

Dawn Wolfson (speaking as an individual)

Cameron Park

From: Michael Picco <PiccoEnterprises@placerville.net>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 4:29 PM
To: BOS-Clerk of the Board
Subject: Copy of email sent to Supervisor Thomas

Hello,

I wanted to voice my displeasure at your vote in favor of moving toward the elimination of the Human Rights Commission. To think that our county is devoid of issues that this commission addresses, is pure fantasy.

The purpose of the commission, as stated on their web site is to "promote tolerance ...". There are intolerant and racist acts in Placerville (for example) more frequently than we should allow.

We as citizens need to do all in our power to promote tolerance and you, as a Supervisor, should be supporting that goal. I do know that the voices of intolerance may be louder at times, but you must conduct yourself in a manner that can qualify you as the 'adult in the room' and not follow the likes of the pair of individuals that voted along with you.

I will be watching this very important issue and I am not alone in my concerns.

Respectfully,

Michael Picco

Dist. 3 resident

From: Dan Silverberg <dansilverberg@earthlink.net>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 4:31 PM
To: BOS-Clerk of the Board
Subject: Item 23-0283

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Hello:

It has been brought to my attention that the BOS may end the county Human Rights Commission. This would be a travesty. You in government have no idea how opaque government seems to people who have issues. The HRC is one of the very few clear options a person may have when seeking redress.

I have lived here for over 40 years. I have seen more than one example of overt racism including the destruction of private property and the reticence of a black man to walk at night. These are in the past, but could occur again today.

Please keep the HRC. Removing it would send the signal that this county is less than it can and should be.

Thank you for your time,

Dan Silverberg

PO Box 55

Coloma, CA

dansilverberg@earthlink.net

From: Lauri Kemper <lauri.osgoodcreek@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 8:13 PM
To: BOS-Clerk of the Board
Subject: Item 23-0283

March 13, 2023

Good afternoon, el dorado county supervisors,

I urge you to continue to maintain the county human rights commission. The supervisors need to hear from a broad collection of citizens. A Human Rights commission allows the supervisors to hear unique and focused perspectives on human rights issues, concerns and recommendations. Your jobs are complicated and complex and it is imperative for you encourage and support the maintenance of a commission of individuals focused on human rights to better inform you of current issues and gain increased awareness and knowledge of both problems and recommended solutions.

I hope you will continue to support the commission and increase interaction with individuals facing discrimination or abuse in our county and support actions that better support and serve all residents.

Lauri Kemper
El Dorado County resident
Registered Civil Engineer
LTUSD Trustee (representing only myself in this comment and support of the human rights commission)

Sent from my iPhone

From: Juli Thompson <jbthompson1987@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 10:10 PM
To: BOS-Clerk of the Board
Subject: HRC

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To the Board of Supervisors,

I have lived in El Dorado County for 35 years. I have felt pride in this community over the years. Please help me continue to feel pride by changing your position regarding the Human Rights Commission. I vote for promoting human kindness and acceptance by educating our county employees and residents about the strength of our diversity, not by fearing our differences. By supporting this group's work, the county can work toward fostering a stronger, more cohesive and supportive community.

PLEASE vote to retain the Human Rights of Commission.

Respectfully,
Juli Thompson

From: Marsha Johnson <marshahjohnson@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 11:53 AM
To: BOS-Clerk of the Board
Subject: Support Human Rights Commission

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As a resident of El Dorado County, I believe that the 2.20.1101 statement quoted below is of vital importance, and I encourage the board to give full approval for the continuance of the Human Rights Commission. We are a community of varied backgrounds and origins that must be honored as we agree to live peacefully together.

2.20.1101 The purpose of the Human Rights Commission is to promote tolerance and mutual respect among all persons, and to foster peaceful relations in the interest of preserving the public peace among residents of different races, religions, national origins, and the other characteristics listed in Government Code section 11135.

Thank you,
Marsha Johnson
marshahjohnson@sbcglobal.net