

MINUTES
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION
April 20, 2026

A. ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

At 6:06 p.m. the regular meeting of the Community Relations Commission convened. Chair Khalilah Durias, Commissioner Tiffany Lopez, Commissioner Meaghan Salas, Commissioner Rene Camper-Stewart, and Commissioner Alejandro Castro were present. Vice Chair Cynthia Gonzalez joined at 6:11 p.m. Commissioner Helaine Stallion was absent. Staff member present was Martha Guillen, Acting Secretary. Saluted the Flag

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. SUBJECT: Approval of the Regular Meeting of Monday, March 16, 2026.

MOTION: Vice Chair Gonzalez approved with amendment under Roll Call and Item B, and Commissioner Camper-Stewart seconded. Motion carried 7-0. Commissioner

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public speakers.

D. REPORT

1. SUBJECT: Presentation by Kelcey Newman, Creative Director ATTAIN design and Marketing Communications regarding the legacy of his mother Ms. Odessa Newman – first African American to serve on the Oxnard School District Board of Trustees and the work he does in the community.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Community Relations Commission receive and file.

DISCUSSION: The CRC Commissioners received and filed a presentation by Kelcey Newman. Commissioners expressed their appreciation to Kelcey Newman for his work as an artist and for sharing a Beautiful presentation regarding the legacy of his belated mother Ms. Odessa Newman-Staples whose spirit of advocacy emerged at the age of 16, when she addressed the Philadelphia neighborhood City Council to promote unity between Black and Puerto Rican families for fair housing rights. She devoted her life to caring for individuals with special needs and fostered dozens of children across Ventura County. She was the first African American to serve on the Oxnard School District Board of Trustees and was named Oxnard Woman of the Year. She then made history again for being the first African American to run for Mayor of Oxnard.

E. AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

SUBJECT: Multicultural Festival Ad-Hoc Committee.

RECOMMENDATION: That the CRC receive an update from the Multicultural Festival Ad-Hoc Committee on program details, deadlines, and outreach. Sunset date: October 19, 2026.

Members: Commissioner Tiffany Lopez, Commissioner Meaghan Salas and Commissioner Alejandro Castro.

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Tiffany Lopez will reach out to the CRC secretary and scheduled an Ad-Hoc Committee meeting before the next regular scheduled CRC meeting.

F. REPORT OF THE COMMISSION SECRETARY

Commission secretary reported about the upcoming events:

- 1) Reminded the CRC Commissioners about the upcoming Special CAG meeting scheduled for Monday, April 27, 2026.
- 2) Public Works Open House, taking place on Wednesday, May 20, 26 from 1 pm – 7 pm, in Downtown Plaza Park.

G. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

1. Commissioner Rene Camper-Stewart attended the Community Survey-Listening Session Hosted by Channel Islands (CA) Chapter, The Links Incorporated.
2. Vice Chair Cynthia Gonzalez reminded everyone about the red carpet being hosted by the Ventura County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. screening of Michael the movie and the League of Women Voters Candidate Forums scheduled for 2026.
3. Commissioner Meaghan Salas regarding May Day scheduled for Friday, May 1, 2026.
4. Commissioner Tiffany Lopez shared information about the following events: Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day Edition Food Trucks and Rebozo Festival.
5. Chair Khalilah Durias attended the Open Community Forum for the Channel Islands Chapter of the Links Inc.

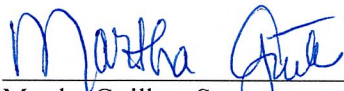
H. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Commissioner Stallion requested that a future agenda item include extending an invitation to the following guests: Chief Benitez, City Manager Nguyen.

Commissioner Meaghan Salas requested that a future agenda item include extending an invitation to Youth to Rise.

I. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:09 p.m. Commissioner Tiffany Lopez motion to adjourn the meeting, and Commissioner Meaghan Salas seconded. The motion carried unanimously.



Martha Guillen, Secretary



Khalilah Durias, CRC Chair