



Peace and  
Justice  
Commission

**PEACE & JUSTICE COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Monday, April 6, 2026 – 6:30 p.m.**  
**South Berkeley Senior Center**  
**2939 Ellis St. Berkeley, CA 94703**  
**MINUTES**

**Mayor Adena Ishii:**  
Andrea Cassidy  
**Vice-Chair**

**Rashi Kersarwani:**  
Selim Yasavul

**Terry Taplin:**  
Adam Weisberg

**Ben Bartlett:**  
Carole Marasovic

**Igor Tregub:**  
Deborah Fink

**Shoshana O'Keefe:**  
Nimrod Pitsker Elias

**Brent Blackaby:**  
Robin Mencher

**Cecilia Lunaparra:**  
Luke Taylor

**Mark Humbert:**  
Ilene Lee

**BUSD:**

**Appel-** Grace Morizawa

**Shanoski-** Jeannette McNeil

**Chang-** Babak Sani

**Vasudeo-** George Lippman

**Babitt-** Pastor Dwayne L. Phillips- **Chair**

**Clark-** Judah Press

Meeting began at 6:33 PM with Chair Phillips presiding. Tasha Tervalon as Secretary

**SECTION A. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

**Present:** Commissioners Phillips, Cassidy, Weisberg, Marasovic, Mencher, Taylor, Lee, Sani, Lippman, McNeil and Press

**Arrived at 6:36:** Commissioner Morizawa

**Absent:** Commissioners Yasavul and Elias

**Leave of Absence:** Commissioner Fink

2. Land Acknowledgement
3. Announcements
4. Review and approval of Agenda. Discussion and possible action.

**Motion to approve the agenda with one change, Presenter for Item #2 is unavailable, commission will discuss the item without presentation.**

**M/S/C: Sani/Press**

**Ayes: Commissioners Phillips, Cassidy, Weisberg, Marasovic, Mencher, Taylor, Lee, Sani, Morizawa, Lippman, McNeil and Press**

**Noes: None**

**Abstain: None**

**Absent: Commissioners Yasavul and Elias**

**Excused: Commissioner Fink**

5. Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the March 9, 2026 Peace and Justice Commission Meeting

**Motion to approve the minutes with the following corrections: in item #5- Capitalize U. S. President, comma after authorization. In item #10 add apostrophe in Flock's, change semicolon to comma and correct M/S/C to M/S/F for failed motion.**

**M/S/C: Sani/Press**

**Ayes: Commissioners Phillips, Weisberg, Marasovic, Mencher, Taylor, Lee, Sani, Morizawa, Lippman, McNeil and Press**

**Noes: None**

**Abstain: Commissioner Cassidy**

**Absent: Commissioners Yasavul and Elias**

**Excused: Commissioner Fink**

6. Comments from the Public on non-agenda items. Public Comment is subject to time limits applicable to all speakers as necessary.

# of Public Present: 4

# of comments: 2

7. Commission Updates & Chairperson's Report

- The Chair reports on PJC activities and informal ad hoc subcommittees

8. Secretary's Report

## **SECTION B. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

1. Presentation from BPD regarding hate crimes and hate incidents: reporting, investigation and referral for prosecution with Q and A. Discussion only no action.
2. Presentation from Community Violence Solutions on Human Trafficking. Discussion only no action.
3. Recommendation to Council that the City of Berkeley be declared a sanctuary city for LGBTQIA+ persons including recommendations as to proposed City mandates to protect, and expand, the rights of trans persons. Discussion only no action.
4. Discuss potential dates for one additional meeting to utilize the 10th meeting option for the Commission due to the cancellation of the January meeting. Action is acceptable if a

date is proposed.

**Motion to add the following date for a special meeting: December 7, 2026**

**M/S/C: Lippman/Press**

**Ayes: Commissioners Phillips, Weisberg, Mencher, Taylor, Lee, Sani, Morizawa, Lippman, McNeil and Press**

**Noes: Commissioners Cassidy and Marasovic**

**Abstain: None**

**Absent: Commissioners Yasavul and Elias**

**Excused: Commissioner Fink**

**SECTION D. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion to adjourn at 8:30**

**M/S/C: Lippman/Taylor**

**Ayes: Commissioners Phillips, Cassidy, Weisberg, Marasovic, Mencher, Taylor, Lee, Sani, Morizawa, Lippman, McNeil and Press**

**Noes: None**

**Abstain: None**

**Absent: Commissioners Yasavul and Elias**

**Excused: Commissioner Fink**

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Tasha Tervalon,

Secretary Peace and Justice Commission

Date 5/7/20