



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CONSUMER AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMISSION

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Hilda L. Solis
Holly J. Mitchell
Sheila Kuehl
Janice Hahn
Kathryn Barger

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 13, 2021
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Meeting Held via Teleconference

Item 1: Call to Order Chair Gomez called the meeting to order at 10:36 a.m.

Item 2: Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum Roll call was taken, and the quorum requirement was met.

Present **1st District:** Farrell Chiles, Mike Gomez
 2nd District: Ronnie Jayne, Gregory Gorman
 3rd District: Joan Patsy Ostroy, Eugene Willis Jr
 4th District: Marcel Rodarte, Mark Waronek
 5th District: Vivian Chan

Absent **1st District:** Mark Ramos
 2nd District: Eugene Hale
 3rd District: None
 4th District: Charline Sistrunk
 5th District: Daniel Deng, Harry Leon

Staff Rafael Carbajal, Joel Ayala, Maggie Becerra, Maritza Gutierrez, Keven Chavez, Sayuj Panicker, Yarelis Talavera, Francisco Mendez

Public None

Item 3: Approval of Consumer Affairs Advisory Commission (CAAC) Minutes

Commissioner Jayne moved to approve the minutes of the CAAC meeting for December 29, 2020. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Waronek. Motion was passed unanimously via voice vote. After the approval of the minutes, Commissioner Gomez introduced Rafael Carbajal, newly appointed Director of the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA). After brief remarks, the CAAC welcomed Director Carbajal and looked forward to future collaborations.

Item 4: CAAC 2021 Elections

Before the election process began, Chair Gomez gave closing remarks and thanked the CAAC and staff for their support in 2020. The CAAC then held the 2021 elections for Commission Chair and Vice-Chair for calendar year 2021. The election began with the voting process of Chair. Voting was done via roll call vote and the CAAC unanimously voted to elect Commissioner Ostroy as Chair of the CAAC. The election process continued with voting for Vice-Chair of the CAAC. Voting was done via roll call vote and the CAAC unanimously voted to elect Commissioner Gorman as Vice-Chair of the CAAC. The newly appointed Chairs thanked the Commission for their support and outlined their goals for 2021.

Item 5: 2021 Sub-Committee Interest Cards

Francisco Mendez, DCBA Commission Liaison, informed the CAAC that the membership process to join the CAAC Legislative and Public Information Committees was open. Commissioners who are interested in serving can submit their interest cards by no later than February 5, 2021.

Item 6: DCBA Center for Financial Empowerment (CFE) – Financial Navigators Program

Yarelis Talavera, Consumer and Business Affairs Representative III, presented information on the recently established Financial Navigators Program aimed at helping Los Angeles County residents manage the financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Although the program is not currently accepting applications due to a high response rate, Ms. Talavera assured the CAAC that information on when the program will reopen would be shared at a future meeting.

Item 7: CAAC Legislative and Public Information Committee Updates

Commissioner Jayne, Chair of the Public Information Committee, stated that the Committee received information on holiday and common scams targeting Los Angeles County residents. This information was shared at the CAAC meeting in December. Commissioner Gorman, Chair of the Legislative Committee, shared that the CAAC received information on AB 3088. This information was also shared at the CAAC meeting in December.

Item 8: DCBA Department Update

Maggie Becerra, DCBA Deputy Director of Consumer Counseling, notified the CAAC that a presentation on retaliation at work due to COVID-19 and Hero Pay would be presented at a future CAAC meeting. Ms. Becerra also highlighted the previously shared information relating to COVID-19 vaccine scams and food programs available to Los Angeles County residents.

Item 9: Future Agenda Items

- Information on the COVID-19 vaccine
- Retaliation at work and Hero Pay
- Bank-On

Item 10: Public Comment

None

Item 11: Adjournment

Commissioner Chan moved to adjourn the CAAC meeting. Commissioner Gomez seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.