

MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the Human Services Commission
Thursday, July 17, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Human Services Commission of the City of Gardena, California, was called to order by Chair Loduem at 6:04 pm on Thursday, July 17, 2025, in the Nakaoka Community Center.

1. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Chair Valerie Loduem; Vice-Chair Tanoh Amoa (King Nat) Jr.; Member Shari Farmer; Member Sharon Pamplin; Member LaWanda Staten

In Attendance: Nicola Howard, Staff Liaison

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of minutes of May 15, 2025 meeting was deferred and will be on the July 17, 2025 agenda.

5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

Commission Chair and Co-Chair selection: Discussion took place. A motion was made by Member Farmer that Valerie Loduem continue to be the Chair of the Human Services Commission for the 2025-26 fiscal year. Motion was seconded by Member Staten and passed with unanimous vote.

7. **COMMISSION MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS**

- Members discussed Chief Saffell's retirement celebration.
- Chair Loduem reported that she heard that Chief Fox had attended the Second Time Around meeting at Rowley Park to introduce himself.
- Member Farmer attended the District 2 meeting and Chief Fox was there as well. She also shared that Waste Resources did a presentation on sorting trash and sharing what should be placed in each trash can. Member Pamplin shared that she attended a homeowner's association meeting and they were in attendance there as well. They are informing the community that they are implementing fines for not sorting trash accordingly.
- Member Farmer attended the Car Show. She shared that it was a different set up than last year which some liked and others did not. She felt that there were fewer people in attendance but that overall it was a nice event. Chair Loduem shared that she heard feedback that it should be longer or go later.
- Commissioners asked about the EV charger project at Rowley Park. Liaison Howard shared that the project will take approximately one month and they will close half of the parking lot at a time so that parking spaces remain available. Parking spaces will not be exclusively for electric vehicles. EV chargers will be installed at Johnson Park as well.
- Commissioners attended the Juneteenth event and stated that it was amazing.

8. **UPCOMING EVENTS / VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

The following events were discussed and flyers distributed:

- Gardena Dodger Day - Tuesday, July 22
- Ministerial Meeting - Thursday, July 24
- Summer Concert in the Park - Saturday, July 26
- Summer Block Party in Celebration of National Night Out with Back-to-School Giveaway - Tuesday, August 5
- Community Yard Sale – Saturday, August 9
- Movie Night Series

9. **STAFF LIAISON REPORT**

- Human Services Update - Liaison Howard shared Back to School registration is open, and so far we have 190 students registered and 350 spaces available. Rental Assistance Program has started again: the first round of applications was Monday. Staff met with about 40 applicants and accepted 24 completed applications for review.
- The Human Services Coordinator for Senior Services is back from leave. The Social Services Coordinator has resigned so the position will be advertised again. Human Services staff will provide Supportive Services until the Coordinator is hired.
- Sister City delegation from Ichikawa, Japan will be in Gardena next week. Welcome and baseball game will take place on Wednesday.

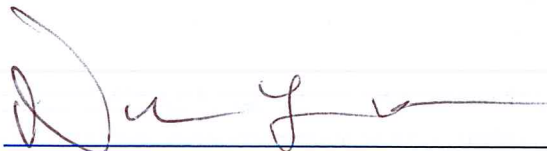
10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:00 pm made by Member Farmer, seconded by Member Staten, and passed with unanimous vote. Next meeting will be August 21, 2025 at 6:00 pm in the Nakaoka Community Center.

APPROVED:



Nicola Howard, Staff Liaison



Valerie Loduem, Chair