
CITY OF MESA
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)
September 24, 2025 Minutes

The Human Relations Advisory Board (HRAB) of the City of Mesa met on September 24, 2025 at 6:00 pm in the Lower Level, City Council Chambers, 57 E First St.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Christiana Hammond, Chair
William Campos
Sabrina Dobson
Abram Ellsworth
Chantelle Frazee-Jacobs
Perla Sandberg
Oscar White
Jane Williams-Cooper

MEMBERS ABSENT

Nina Allred, Vice-Chair
Spencer Beck
Yudidt Nonthe Sanchez

STAFF PRESENT

Andrea Alicoate
Bianca Amin
Sarah Tolar
Tara Acuna

GUESTS

1. Chair's Call to Order.

Ms. Hammond called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

(1a) Announcement of excused absences.

Ms. Nina Allred, Mr. Spencer Beck, and Ms. Yudidt Nonthe Sanchez were announced as excused absences for the meeting.

2. Items from Citizens Present. *

No citizens wished to speak to the board.

3. Approval of minutes from the August 27, 2025 HRAB meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Oscar White and seconded by Ms. Jane Williams-Cooper that the above-mentioned minutes be accepted as written.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Ms. Christiana Hammond, Mr. William Campos, Ms. Sabrina Dobson, Mr. Abram Ellsworth, Ms. Chantelle Frazee-Jacobs, Ms. Perla Sandberg, Mr. Oscar White, Ms. Jane Williams-Cooper

NAYS – None

4. Hear and discuss a presentation on Mesa's draft Citywide Workforce Development Strategic Plan, including efforts for internships, apprenticeships and other student career pathways into the City.

Ms. Sarah Tolar, the Education and Workforce Administrator, presented to the Board an overview of the City's drafted Citywide Workforce Development Strategic Plan. She shared the City's mission to align education, business, and workforce development to create a strong, inclusive and future-ready pipeline. She expanded on the four Strategic Priorities within the plan: support workforce alignment and

growth, build intentional connections, enhance internal workforce development opportunities, and improve post-secondary attainment.

Ms. Tolar explained that Mesa is continuously assessing workforce needs to ensure job seekers and employers are equipped with the right tools and information. In its role as a convener, the City serves as the liaison and connector for Mesa job seekers, employers and educators for available resources and support. The City will remove barriers and leverage partnerships, align with local, state and national efforts and amplify career path opportunities to create a more equitable and accessible education-to-career pipeline for all community members.

Additionally, Ms. Tolar highlighted opportunities (such as job shadowing, service learning, internships, and apprenticeships) where the City is actively engaging the future workforce. She concluded her presentation by addressing questions and responding to feedback from the Board.

5. Hear and discuss a presentation on plans and events for Mesa Celebrates America 250.

This item was not discussed and will be carried forward to the next meeting agenda for discussion.

6. Scheduling of meetings, future agenda items, and general information.

(6a) Next HRAB meeting will be held on October 22, 2025 at 6pm in the NEW City Hall Study Session Council Chambers (20 East Main St.).

7. Hear reports on conferences and/or meetings attended.

Mr. Campos attended the Mesa Chamber of Commerce's Small Business Strategy Development, The Arizona Small Business Association's SCALE (Strategic Coaching for Advancing Local Entrepreneurs) Roadshow, Taste of Mesa, State Forty Eight Foundation's Beyond Business Networking, a job shadowing opportunity at Betty H. Fairfax High School, and the 2025 Good Business Resource Fair.

Ms. Dobson participated in a Love Your City Day project and patronized the Beyond Words Bookshop in Downtown Mesa.

Mr. Ellsworth participated in a Love Your City Day project, Vitalant Blood Drive, visited the Resurrection Street Ministry Heat Relief Center and volunteered with Missing in Arizona.

Ms. Frazee-Jacobs participated in a Love Your City Day project.

Ms. Hammond attended the Japanese Film Festival at the MIX Center.

Mr. White attended the Multicultural Fair, along with the Veterans Day Celebration and Marine Corps. Birthday Celebration planning meetings.

Ms. Williams-Cooper attended the Multicultural Fair and a community fundraising event.

8. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Submitted By:



Andrea Alicoate,
Assistant to the City Manager