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**CITY OF MESA  
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)  
November 29, 2023 Minutes**

The Human Relations Advisory Board (HRAB) of the City of Mesa met on November 29, 2023 at 6:00pm in the Lower Level, City Council Chambers, 57 E First St.

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u>	<u>STAFF PRESENT</u>	<u>GUESTS</u>
Ron Williams Chair	Brett Caldwell	Andrea Alicoate	
Christiana Hammond Vice Chair	Mahmoud Riyah	Elisha Gutierrez	
Nina Allred	Rochelle Johns	Jodi Sorrell	
William Campos			
Sabrina Dobson			
Abram Ellsworth			
Yudit Nonthe Sanchez			
Oscar White			

1. Chair's Call to Order.

Ms. Hammond called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

(1a) Announcement of excused absences.

Rochelle Johns was announced as an excused absence for this meeting.

2. Items from Citizens Present. \*

No citizens wished to speak to the board.

3. Approval of minutes from the October 25, 2023 HRAB meeting.

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

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES- Mr. Williams, Ms. Hammond, Ms. Allred, Mr. Campos, Ms. Dobson, Mr. Ellsworth, Ms. Nonthe Sanchez, and Mr. White

NAYS- None

4. Hear and discuss an update from Transit Services.

Jodi Sorrell, Director of Transit Services, provided the HRAB with a presentation on Transit Updates. She reviewed the Transit Master Plan, the Rio East-Dobson Streetcar Extension, and Ridership. She explained the details of their progress and their public outreach efforts. Along with their vision, goals, and objectives for a reliable, productive, and well-connected

multimodal transit system. Ms. Sorrell provided board members with a summary of their assessment, recommendations, and priorities. Preliminary Transit recommendations include service improvements, route modifications, new routes, emerging markets, and high-capacity transit. She concluded her presentation by providing statistics on ridership, transit trips, and cost. Ms. Sorrell answered questions and responded to feedback provided by HRAB.

5. Hear and discuss an update to the City's annual HRC Municipal Equality Index Scorecard.

Ms. Alicoate, Director of Diversity & Engagement, provided HRAB with a presentation on the City's annual HRC Municipal Equality Index Scorecard. For 2023, the City's score is 96/100, 9 points higher than previous years of 87/100. She went into detail about each category and score rating. She also provided examples of what factors into each score. Along with informing the board of where they can locate the City's scores. Ms. Alicoate answered questions and responded to feedback provided by HRAB.

6. Hear and discuss upcoming All-America City Celebration plans.

Ms. Alicoate provided the HRAB details on upcoming events for celebrating the All-America City Celebration Day occurring on January 27, 2024 and invited board members to attend.

7. Hear and discuss a recap of the Regional HRC Meeting held on November 16, 2023.

Mr. Williams provided a recap of the Regional HRC Meeting and invited HRAB members to share their experiences. HRAB shared their comments and feedback including interest in the topic of mental health and function/format commissions in other jurisdictions. Ms. Alicoate thanked the board members for their attendance as Mesa had the highest number of attendees out of all the partner cities.

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

(8a) Next HRAB meeting will be held on December 20, 2023 at 6pm virtually via ZOOM.

Mr. Williams went over the details of the next meetings.

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

Mr. Williams attended the Regional Human Relations Commissions meeting.

Ms. Hammond attended the Regional Human Relations Commissions meeting. She also attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Chandler Pride Festival and the Arizona Community Foundation panel for LGBTQ+.

Ms. Allred attended the i.d.e.a. Museum Foundation Board meeting and attended the SPARC finals soccer match. She also attended weekly meetings with the East Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Women's Innovative Network. She organized the Latino Student Conference. She also volunteered for the Art in the Park event and joined the Mesa High School Advocates group.

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Mr. Campos attended the East Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce events.

Ms. Dobson attended the Regional Human Relations Commissions meeting.

Mr. Ellsworth attended the Regional Human Relations Commissions meeting, the Roy Track Memorial Mesa Pow Wow, the St. Vincent de Paul Hope Restored event and the Faith and Football night event. He also attended the Resurrection Church Turkey Drive and the met with a representative from the Eagle Scouts.

Mr. White attended the Regional Human Relations Commissions meeting, local ceremonies for veterans and the St. Vincent de Paul Turkey Drive. He also volunteered for the Art in the Park event and at a local shelter on Thanksgiving.

10. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Submitted By:



Andrea Alicoate,  
Director of Diversity & Engagement