
**CITY OF MESA
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)
October 25, 2023 Minutes**

The Human Relations Advisory Board (HRAB) of the City of Mesa met on October 25, 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		Stephanie Derivan	
William Campos		Sarah Tolar	
Sabrina Dobson			
Abram Ellsworth			
Rochelle Johns			
Yudit Nonthe Sanchez			
Oscar White			

1. Chair's Call to Order.

Mr. Williams called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

(1a) Announcement of excused absences.

Brett Caldwell 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 September 27, 2023 HRAB meeting.

It was moved by Mr. White and seconded by Mr. Campos 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. Johns, Ms. Nonthe Sanchez, and Mr. White

NAYS- None

4. Hear and discuss a presentation from the Mesa Police Department on their hate crimes grant and related efforts.

Commander Stephanie Derivan from the Mesa Police Department provided a presentation to the HRAB regarding their hate crime strategic initiative. Commander Derivan provided an

overview of the initiative which included their training, policy revision, reporting, and investigations. She presented data that was compiled through a community survey and discussions that were conducted by the ASU Morrison Institute for Public Policy.

Commander Derivan detailed their on-going and comprehensive training model including: 1-hour virtual mandatory training for all department members; a series of legal and investigative resources bulletins; basic police academy training; criminal investigation unit supervisors training; field training officer training; advanced investigation training and other continuing education training. She concluded the presentation by summarizing their current process. All incidents are reviewed by the Hate Crime Detective and evaluated by Criminal Investigations or Gangs where appropriate. Commander Derivan answered questions and responded to positive feedback provided by the HRAB.

5. Hear and discuss a presentation from the Education & Workforce Office on early learning, literacy, and workforce initiatives.

Sarah Tolar, Administrator from the Education & Workforce Office, provided a presentation to the HRAB regarding their early learning, literacy, and workforce initiatives. Ms. Tolar gave an overview of their purpose, priorities, and development. She explained that their priorities center around students, residents and families, and education/industry community partners to provide knowledge-informed support, identify and fill education gaps and enrichment needs, connect and inform access to basic needs, and identify and support workforce needs, access, and opportunities. All of the Office's programs and efforts point to one of these priorities.

Ms. Tolar shared about the City's Education and Workforce Development Roundtable, a stakeholder board to coordinate efforts to advance Mesa's education and workforce development goals. She provided details surrounding their current programming Mesa College Promise, Mesa-K Ready, and Read On Mesa. She also touched on the Workforce Center goals and wrap-around services. She concluded the presentation by summarizing their current efforts in providing support to students, residents, families, and community partners. Ms. Tolar answered questions and responded to feedback provided by the HRAB.

6. Hear, discuss, and approve the 2023-2025 HRAB Strategic Plan.

Ms. Alicoate, Director of Diversity & Engagement, provided the HRAB the 2023-2025 HRAB Strategic Plan. She answered questions provided by HRAB before it was taken into consideration for a vote.

It was moved by Mr. White and seconded by Ms. Dobson that the above-mentioned strategic plan be accepted as written.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

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

NAYS- None

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

(7a) Regional Human Relations Commissions meeting will be held on November 15, 2023 at 6pm at the The Parsons Center for Health and Wellness, Southwest Center for HIV/AIDS, 1101 North Central Avenue, Ste. 200, Phoenix, AZ 85004.

(7b) Next HRAB meeting will be held on November 29, 2023 at 6pm in the Lower-Level City Council Chambers (57 E 1st St).

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

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

Mr. Williams attended the One Community Spotlight on Success Local Heroes Awards.

Ms. Hammond attended the One Community Spotlight on Success Local Heroes Awards, and the Arizona Pride Parade. She also had the opportunity to serve as a panelist for Out & Away Pride Panel at Arizona State University.

Ms. Allred attended the i.d.e.a. Museum's Luminous exhibition and attended a SPARC finals basketball game. She also attended a Celebrate Peace event and attended the Celebrate Mesa event, along with a meeting held by the Mesa Prevention Alliance. She also attended with the Native American Family and Fatherhood Association. She attended weekly meetings with the East Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. She also attended the We the People event and attended a Latino outreach event. She also volunteered for the Dia de los Muertos event. She promoted the SPARC soccer game taking place taking place on at Mesa High School.

Mr. Campos spoke at Arizona State University Preparatory Academy. He attended events held by Local First Arizona, East Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and the Mesa Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Dobson attended the Celebrate Mesa event and the opening ceremony for the Dia de los Muertos celebration.

Mr. Ellsworth attended the i.d.e.a. Museum open house, the Love & Light event at Without Walls Church, We the People Cultural Dance event and the opening ceremony for the Dia de los Muertos celebration.

Mr. White attended the Celebration Mesa event.

9. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted By:



Andrea Alicoate,
Director of Diversity & Engagement