
**CITY OF MESA
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)
April 23, 2025 Minutes**

The Human Relations Advisory Board (HRAB) of the City of Mesa met on April 23, 2025 at 6:00pm in the Lower Level, City Council Chambers, 57 E First St.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Christiana Hammond, Chair
Spencer Beck
Sabrina Dobson
Abram Ellsworth
Yudidt Nonthe Sanchez
Mary Redwing
Jane Williams-Cooper

MEMBERS ABSENT

Nina Allred, Vice-Chair
William Campos
Perla Sandberg
Oscar White

STAFF PRESENT

Andrea Alicoate
Elisha Gutierrez
Bianca Amin

GUESTS

1. Chair's Call to Order.

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

(1a) Announcement of excused absences.

Ms. Allred, Mr. Campos, Ms. Sandberg, and Mr. White 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 January 22, 2025 HRAB meeting.

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

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Ms. Christiana Hammond, Mr. Spencer Beck, Ms. Sabrina Dobson, Mr. Abram Ellsworth, Ms. Yudidt Nonthe Sanchez, Ms. Mary Redwing, Ms. Jane Williams-Cooper

NAYS - None

4. Approval of minutes from the February 26, 2025 HRAB meeting.

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

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Ms. Christiana Hammond, Mr. Spencer Beck, Ms. Sabrina Dobson, Mr. Abram Ellsworth, Ms. Yudidt Nonthe Sanchez, Ms. Mary Redwing, Ms. Jane Williams-Cooper

NAYS – None

5. Approval of minutes from the March 26, 2025 HRAB meeting.

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

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Ms. Christiana Hammond, Mr. Spencer Beck, Ms. Sabrina Dobson, Mr. Abram Ellsworth, Ms. Yudit Nonthe Sanchez, Ms. Mary Redwing, Ms. Jane Williams-Cooper

NAYS – None

6. Hear and discuss a presentation from 2025-2027 HRAB Strategic Plan.

Ms. Andrea Alicoate, Assistant to the City Manager, shared with the Board a summary of the Strategic Planning Meeting session in March 2025. She facilitated feedback and discussions from the Board regarding its updated mission and vision. She also summarized the Board's discussion about the future goals it would like to prioritize within the 2025-2027 HRAB Strategic Plan and in its action. She also advised the Board on the importance of key measurements applicable to the Board's upcoming priorities. She advised that continuing discussions about the Board's priority and measurements is necessary in tracking the Board's impact within the community. Ms. Alicoate answered questions and responded to feedback provided by the Board.

7. Hear a presentation and discuss the opportunity for residential input on the proposed 2025 - 2026 City budget.

Ms. Alicoate presented to the Board an overview of the ongoing 2025-2026 City Budget discussions. She guided the Board where it can find the data and information regarding the City Budget. She advised that there would be two community meetings open to the public in May and encouraged members to attend. Ms. Alicoate answered logistical questions about the meetings posed by the Board.

8. Discuss and take action on the cancellation of the following Board meetings:

(8a) Cancellation of May 28, 2025 Board meeting

Chair Hammond advised that May's regular meeting date immediately follows a holiday weekend, which is always difficult to get quorum, and a board they typically vote to move it earlier a week but this year that will conflict with graduation celebrations for both Chair and Vice-Chair. Therefore, Chair Hammond proposed canceling the meeting in lieu of the board members attending one of the budget meetings, or other community events, discussed as available.

It was moved by Mr. Ellsworth and seconded by Ms. Dobson that the above-mentioned motion be accepted as written.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Ms. Christiana Hammond, Mr. Spencer Beck, Ms. Sabrina Dobson, Mr. Abram Ellsworth, Ms. Yudit Nonthe Sanchez, Ms. Mary Redwing, Ms. Jane Williams-Cooper

NAYS – None

(8b) Cancellation of June 25, 2025 Board meeting.

Chair noted that historically HRAB takes a break from meetings during the summer due to difficulty of obtaining quorum and to give staff a break, and recommended doing such again this year.

It was moved by Mr. Ellsworth and seconded by Ms. Williams-Cooper that the above-mentioned motion be accepted as written.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Ms. Christiana Hammond, Mr. Spencer Beck, Ms. Sabrina Dobson, Mr. Abram Ellsworth, Ms. Yudit Nonthe Sanchez, Ms. Mary Redwing, Ms. Jane Williams-Cooper

NAYS – None

(8c) Cancellation of July 23, 2025 Board meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Ellsworth and seconded by Ms. Williams-Cooper that the above-mentioned motion be accepted as written.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Ms. Christiana Hammond, Mr. Spencer Beck, Ms. Sabrina Dobson, Mr. Abram Ellsworth, Ms. Yudit Nonthe Sanchez, Ms. Mary Redwing, Ms. Jane Williams-Cooper

NAYS - None

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

(9a) Next HRAB meeting will be held on August 27, 2025 at 6pm in the Lower-Level City Council Chambers (57 E 1st St).

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

Mr. Beck has been working in the community in Southern Arizona.

Ms. Dobson attended the Equal Access Rule Webinar, Mesa Mercado, and Take Back the Night Event at Arizona State University.

Mr. Ellsworth attended the Missing in Arizona (MIA) briefings, a community service project with Resurrection Street Ministry, Holy Week art exhibition at the Mesa Latter-Day Saints Temple, and a summit for African American Faith Leaders.

Ms. Hammond attended the Rainbows Festival and the Mesa Public Schools City Governing Board Meeting.

Ms. Redwing attended the Sunshine Acres Open House, the Employee Appreciation Night for the Mesa Police Department, an advocacy event for Division of Developmental Disabilities funding, and the Dear Mom, Conference.

Ms. Nonthe Sanchez attended an Arizona Educational Foundation Fundraiser, Truth Across Borders event, and an Arizona State University Undergraduate Student Government Brunch with the Tempe Mayor.

Ms. Williams-Cooper attended an Autism Awareness Month Open Forums and Support Groups, along with a Volunteer Appreciation Event at Eastmark.

11. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Submitted By:



Andrea Alicoate,
Assistant to the City Manager