



**CITY OF MESA
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)
August 24, 2022 Minutes**

The Human Relations Advisory Board (HRAB) of the City of Mesa met on August 24, 2022 at 6:00pm in the Lower Level, City Council Chambers, 57 E First St.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jared Smith, Chair
Tom Brennan, Vice-Chair
Nina Allred
Brett Caldwell
Willie Campos
Margaret Duarte
Christiana Hammond
Rochelle Johns
Yudit Nonthe-Sanchez
Oscar White
Ron Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

Andrea Alicoate
Angela Siebrecht

GUESTS

1. Chair's Call to Order.

Mr. Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

(1a) Announcement of excused absences.

There were no excused absences for this meeting.

(1b) Announcement and introduction of new HRAB members: Nina Allred, Brett Caldwell, and Oscar White.

All board members and staff liaisons in attendance provided brief introductions to the group, sharing photos and information about personal and professional experience and interests.

2. Items from Citizens Present.

No citizens wished to speak to the board.

3. Approval of minutes from the May 25, 2022 HRAB meeting.

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

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES- Mr. Williams, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Campos, Ms. Duarte, Ms. Allred, Ms. Hammond, Ms. Johns, Mr. Caldwell, Ms. Nonthe-Sanchez, Mr. White, and Mr. Smith

NAYS- None

4. Hear and discuss presentation on the purpose and function of the HRAB, Arizona Open Meeting Law, and conflict of interest.

Ms. Alicoate shared a presentation regarding the history and scope of work of the HRAB. Ms. Alicoate advised board members that in their capacity with the HRAB, they advise the City Council regarding racial, religious, cultural, disability-related, and other human services issues as they pertain to City of Mesa government and the delivery of City services.

Ms. Alicoate additionally shared guidelines regarding Arizona Open Meeting Law and cautioned Board members to be aware of the stipulations concerning communication between Board members outside of scheduled meetings. Ms. Alicoate encouraged Board members to utilize City staff liaisons for any matters they need to be communicated to other Board members outside of a regularly scheduled meeting to avoid violating Arizona Open Meeting Law. Ms. Alicoate further reminded members that Arizona State Statute prevents the Board from discussing any items while meeting that are not on the agenda to provide the public with a chance to address the Board if they wish to do so.

5. Hear and discuss an update on the existing 2021-2023 HRAB Strategic Plan.

Ms. Alicoate shared a presentation regarding the 2021-2023 HRAB Strategic Plan, approved by the Board in August 2021. Ms. Alicoate shared that the main goals of the HRAB are to research, educate & act, and measure, and provided more information to Board members regarding their role in the community. Ms. Alicoate provided more context and understanding for which issues would fall under the purview of the HRAB and stressed that Board members are only able to make recommendations on issues concerning City of Mesa services and government.

6. Hear and discuss an update on current and future HRAB projects and events for FY 22-23.

Ms. Alicoate shared a presentation regarding upcoming events for the Board, including Phoenix Pride Parade, the MLK Parade, and the annual Unity Walk at Tempe Beach Park. Ms. Alicoate additionally shared information regarding various community organizations that will offer presentations to the Board at upcoming meetings, including Copa Health and the community engagement teams from Mesa Police and Mesa Fire and Medical. She further encouraged Board members to offer their own suggestions for projects and presentations and encouraged the use of community connections to engage more Mesa residents in the activities of the HRAB.

Following this presentation, Mr. Smith provided some brief comments acknowledging Mr. Williams' previous work as Chair of the HRAB and Mr. Williams' instrumental role in the success of the Board's recent projects and in Mr. Smith's own development as a member of the HRAB and other community organizations. Mr. Smith further designated Mr. Williams as the "Community Ambassador" for the HRAB. Mr. Williams shared some comments regarding his time with the Board and other community organizations, in particular his leadership roles with these organizations.

7. Discuss and take action on the cancellation or rescheduling of the following Board meetings:

(7a) Rescheduling of November 23, 2022 Board meeting to November 30, 2022.

It was moved by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Mr. White that the Board meeting currently scheduled for November 23, 2022 be rescheduled to November 30, 2022.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES- Mr. Williams, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Campos, Ms. Duarte, Ms. Allred, Ms. Hammond, Ms. Johns, Mr. Caldwell, Ms. Nonthe-Sanchez, Mr. White, and Mr. Smith

NAYS- None

(7b) Cancellation of December 28, 2022 Board meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Brennan and seconded by Ms. Johns that the Board meeting currently scheduled for December 28, 2022 be cancelled.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES- Mr. Williams, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Campos, Ms. Duarte, Ms. Allred, Ms. Hammond, Ms. Johns, Mr. Caldwell, Ms. Nonthe-Sanchez, Mr. White, and Mr. Smith

NAYS- None

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

(8a) Regional Human Relation Commissions Meeting will be held on September 8, 2022 at 5:30PM hosted by City of Chandler.

(8b) Next HRAB meeting will be held on September 28, 2022 at 6PM in the Lower-Level City Council Chambers (57 E 1st St).

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

Mr. Campos, Ms. Duarte, and Ms. Allred reported that they attended a lunch for Mesa Hispanic leaders hosted by Council Members Heredia and Luna earlier that day. Ms. Allred additionally reported that she meets weekly with East Valley Hispanic Network leadership.

Mr. Campos additionally reported that he attended a networking meeting for local business leaders held at Cider Corps earlier this month. Mr. Smith shared that he regularly attends meetings of the Unity Walk planning committee and the Equity Advisory Committee with Mesa Public Schools.

Mr. Williams reported that he attended the Visit Mesa CEO Celebration as well as the Visit Mesa Board Director's meeting earlier in the week. He further shared that he has been meeting extensively with the Arizona Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Committee in preparation for this year's Arizona Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Awards Breakfast event. Mr. Williams strongly encouraged all Board members to submit nominations for community members they feel have made an impact on increasing compassion and social justice in the Phoenix metropolitan area for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Living the Dream & Calvin C. Goode Lifetime Achievement Awards. He additionally shared that he attended and moderated a business and finance conference for local business leaders on August 21.

10. Adjournment.


The meeting was adjourned at 7:06PM

***Members of the audience may address the Board on any item. The Arizona Open Meeting Law (ARS § 38-431 et seq.) limits the Human Relations Advisory Board to discussing only those matters listed on the agenda and other matters related thereto.**

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Si necesita asistencia o traducción en español, favor de llamar al menos 48 horas antes de la reunión al 480-644-2767.

Submitted By:



Andrea Alicoate,
Diversity & Special Projects Manager