



Greater Tulsa Area African American Affairs Commission

Regular Meeting | June 10, 2025 | 6:00 – 7:00 pm

City Hall at One Technology Center | 10 North Meeting Room

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: Patricia Carter-Breeckner, Dewayne Dickens, Brian Humphrey, Margaret Love, Tracye Love Chandler, Jon Paul Ray, Donald Rose, Mikeal Vaughn, Maybelle Wallace, Juddie Williams, Tony Williams

Commissioners Absent: Marquess Dennis, David Harris, Larissa McNeil, Jameelah Stuckey

I. Call to Order

- a. Vice Chair Humphrey called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. Vice Chair Humphrey entertained a motion to approve the May meeting minutes.
 - i. Commissioner Rose motioned, Chairman Dickens seconded.
 - 1. Aye: 8, Nay: 0
 - a. Commissioner Vaughn and two other commissioners were not yet present in the meeting.
 - ii. Motion carried, May meeting minutes approved.

III. Guest Speaker: Dr. Laura Latta, Executive Director of Tulsa Higher Education Consortium

- a. The Tulsa Higher Education Consortium (THEC) is comprised of nine colleges and universities across northeastern Oklahoma. THEC supports students through their education journey.
 - i. Half of higher education learners are adult learners.
- b. THEC serves as a:
 - i. Convener: communities of practice, student groups
 - ii. Communicator: degree directory, transfer portal, FAFSA, scholarship search
 - iii. Connector: youth housing program, transfer touchpoints
- c. Want to demystify the process of earning a degree.
 - i. At Martin and Rudisill Libraries every Tuesday and Thursday to help students and families with their FAFSA and other questions.
- d. Track record of success:
 - i. 2018 Tulsa Transfer Project
 - ii. 2021 THEC's launch with communities of practice
 - iii. 2022 Expansion of student outreach (FAFSA, Transfers, OK promise)
 - iv. 2023 Student support program (Youth Housing Program)



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1. \$77k+ distributed for student rental assistance and \$277k distributed for student support services.
- v. 2024 Aligning training, talent, and workforce (Tuition Assistance Benefits, Tech Hubs)
- vi. 2025 Evolving higher education landscape
- e. Commission Discussion
 - i. Commissioner Love Chandler: Are you actively seeking partnership with other higher education institutions?
 1. Dr. Latta: There are some criteria that exist to be part of THEC, and based on that would look at other opportunities to collaborate.
 - ii. Vice Chair Humphrey: How do students reach out to you for services?
 1. Dr. Latta: Sometimes get calls from students, but primarily from high school or college campuses inviting THEC to come provide information.
 - iii. Commissioner Vaughn: Is there also transportation support to students?
 1. Dr. Latta: This is something THEC is trying to solve. There is currently a limited amount of transportation support. Conducted a survey of students who they support with housing and almost all also had inconsistent transportation, so there is a need.
 - iv. Chairman Dickens: What are the demographics of individuals being supported by THEC, especially those who tend to underperform or be underrepresented in higher education?
 1. Dr. Latta didn't have exact percentages, but majority of students are first-generation college students. The majority of students supported by the housing program have recently exited the foster care system or are first-generation students. With FAFSA outreach, support many students with complicated situations such as single parents or mixed immigration status families.
 - v. Commissioner Love Chandler asked if there is a maximum number of students THEC can support a year, Dr. Latta responded that it is ongoing.
 - vi. Vice Chair Humphrey asked if they are 100% federally funded, Dr. Latta said no, they have a mixture of dues, federal grants, local philanthropic funding, and national foundations.

IV. Guest Speaker: Carlos Moreno, Client Advocate at 9b Corp

- a. 9b Corp is a Certified B Corporation, meaning they provide a public benefit.
 - i. Have a verified score of 113.9, higher than the required 80.
 - ii. Recognized in 2022 as Best for the World by Governance by B Lab.
 - iii. Public outcome data helps communities identify systemic challenges, determine efforts and resources that make the biggest impact, and break down silos.

1. Public data is transparent, accountable, objective, collaborative, newsworthy
- iv. One example is Office of the Surgeon General's report on the epidemic of loneliness and isolation. Lacking social connection is as dangerous as smoking a pack of cigarettes a day.
- b. Neighborhood Explorer
 - i. Public data on Neighborhood Explorer makes information actionable.
 - ii. Offer a map view of data. Can see disparities by geography, determine areas of greatest need, and view outcome data of a specific area of interest.
 - iii. Data is clean, reliable, and current. Shows sources for all data.
 - iv. Creating an ecosystem for collecting and sharing data to more people can understand solutions that can work in our community.
 - v. Demonstrated Neighborhood Explorer by taking a priority of GTAAAC and looking at data on median household income, labor force participation rate by zip code and census tracts.
 1. Can filter data by ethnicity, race, and gender.
 - vi. 9b is in conversation with the Tulsa Library to make Neighborhood Explorer available through them as well.
- c. Commission Discussion
 - i. Vice Chair Humphrey asked about 9b's funding sources, Carlos shared their primary income source is contracts when organizations (mostly foundations) pay them to complete a research project.
 - ii. Commissioner Rose noted that 9b Corps offers office hours at the Black Wall Street Chamber of Commerce.

V. Vice Chair Report

- a. Vice Chair Humphrey reminded everyone that next month is a break from commission meetings, will return in August.

VI. Committee Reports

- a. Policy Recommendations - no report
- b. Community Engagement and Culture Promotion - no report
- c. Education and Skill Building
 - i. Commissioner Juddie Williams reported that in this month's Education Committee meeting, Collin Medwick with Tulsa Public Schools showed data on chronic absenteeism in Black community and the committee discussed solutions.
 - ii. Save the Date: Black Education Excellence Awards on Tuesday, Oct 28th at 6 pm.
- d. Human Rights Commission - no report

VII. Old Business – no old business



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VIII. New Business

- a. Vice Chair Humphrey acknowledged Mayor Nichols's Road to Repair announcement, which the Beyond Apology Commission is involved in. Encouraged commissioners to engage with this work.

IX. Announcements / Public Comments

- a. Chairman Dickens acknowledged the commissioners who tabled at Black Wall Street Legacy Fest over Memorial Weekend as well as the Go Green for Greenwood initiative. These kinds of things are important to build a network within the community.

X. Adjournment

- a. Vice Chair Humphrey entertained a motion to adjourn.
 - i. Commissioner Love made a motion, Commissioner Ray seconded.
 - 1. Aye: 11, Nay: 0
- b. Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm.