



Human Rights Commission

Regular Meeting | August 17, 2026 | 3:30 – 4:30 pm

City Hall at One Technology Center | Room 10 North

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: Casey Bakhsh, Ana Barros, Drew France, Anthony Meadows, Katie Eller Murray, Amanda Peregrina, Joyce Roberts, Joshua Starks, Andrea Walker, Dave Walker

Commissioners Absent: Whitney Cipolla, Dezeray Edwards, Larissa McNeil, Parisa Pilehvar, Tamecca Rogers

I. Call to Order

- a. Chairman France called the meeting to order at 3:31 pm.

II. Approve Meeting Minutes

- a. Chairman France entertained a motion to approve the June meeting minutes.
 - i. Commissioner Peregrina motioned, Commissioner Bakhsh seconded.
 - 1. Aye: 9, Nay: 0
 - a. Commissioner Starks was not yet present in the meeting.
 - ii. Motion carried, June meeting minutes approved.

III. Chair Report

- a. Chairman France shared that City staff assisted with drafting a proposal to re-establish a standing committee on HRC for concerns of Tulsans with disabilities. This will not replace ADA compliance or the formal complaint process, but to more clearly connect into HRC's work.
- b. Continued work to modernize the complaints filing process. The ordinance amendment to remove City Clerk as the required first recipient of complaints passed City Council on Aug. 5.
- c. Chairman France and Commissioner Pilehvar presented to City Council about disparities in geographic representation on the ABCs. in a committee meeting in June. Geographic representation. Offered to partner with City Councilors to attend district meetings, events, and town halls to broaden awareness and recruitment.
- d. HRC now has a public-facing flyer to use as a marketing asset.
- e. Chairman France and Commissioner Pilehvar attended July Pub Club and Commissioner Meet and Greet with TYPROS to talk about ABC service with young professionals.
- f. Title V and Beyond Apology Commissions Retreat was also in July. Chairman France presented about the importance of selecting a focus to make forward progress in commissions despite overwhelming issues facing our community.



- g. Chairman France attended the Asian Affairs Commission, Compassionate Tulsa, and 2SLGBTQIA+ Committee meetings to stay close to the issues they discuss.
- h. The Humanitarian of the Year Award selection committee just met and selected an awardee. More to come once the awardee has been notified, accepted the award, and the ceremony is scheduled.

IV. Guest Speaker: La Kendra Carter, City of Tulsa Compliance Officer

- a. The Department of Resilience and Equity (DRE) has been working tirelessly to update the complaints filing process and transition it online. DRE is engaging several departments including IT, Finance, Legal, City Clerk, City Council, and Customer Care (311). The City must consider cost and what systems other departments use that DRE can use. We are considering internal (staff) and external (resident) use as well as reporting, tracking, and security features.
- b. La Kendra presented the Human Rights Complaints Summaries for 2025 and January – July 2026. (Appendix 1)
- c. Commission Discussion
 - i. Commissioner Peregrina asked about Spanish translation for the complaints form. La Kendra confirmed the complaints form and 311 is available in Spanish. The website can also be translated into Spanish. La Kendra offered to create a demonstration video and connect with Commissioner Peregrina.
 - ii. Commissioner Barros noted that modernizing the complaints process is a great opportunity to launch a marketing campaign and get the information out to the community. Want the maximum number of people to understand their rights, what they can submit complaints about, and how to submit complaints. She'd like to see a multilingual awareness campaign after hitting this major milestone in accessibility. La Kendra agreed that many Tulsans don't know they can submit and there is often hesitation about privacy and safety.
 - 1. Commissioner Eller Murray added we need to message in the right format, including short form video, video demonstrations, and closed captioning.
 - 2. Commissioner Barros asked what resources are available through the City. Dion'trae answered that we will start with City Communications to determine available resources.
 - 3. Commissioners Barros and Peregrina volunteered to help with marketing campaign.
 - 4. Commissioner Eller Murray: Need to define success for an awareness campaign while considering La Kendra's capacity.
- d. La Kendra mentioned the DOJ mandate for cities across the country to meet ADA requirements and that an internal City of Tulsa team is working on this. Updating complaints access aligns with this.
- e. Commissioner Dave Walker left the meeting at 3:59 pm.
- f. Chairman France noted that the new ordinance has minimal changes but a large impact.



- i. Dion'trae noted that while City Clerk is no longer the first step to receive complaints, they are still the City's repository. This change allows the process to start with DRE and transition to online, as the Clerk does not have the capacity to receive electronic filing.
- g. The LGBTQ+ community and veteran protections aren't explicit in some areas, so they may not file complaints; however, expanding access may help with this.

V. Updates on HRC Goals

- a. Commissioner Eller Murray: Goal 1 – Improve access to the City of Tulsa Department of Resilience and Equity's resources
 - i. No further update
- b. Commissioner Pilehvar Goal 2 – Increase diverse representation and equitable recruitment practices across all City of Tulsa ABCs
 - i. Chair France reiterated City Councilors' interest in inviting HRC to promote commissions and tap into HOAs and community leaders. As the City modernizes its website, HRC can think differently about how we're broadcasting ABCs.

VI. Committee, Liaison, and Title V Commissions Calls for Action

- a. Commissioner Bakhsh: Fair Housing Committee meeting Aug. 26 at 11am.
 - i. Coordinating with LIFE and YMCA to organize a fair housing summit for seniors.
 - ii. Tulsa Area Fair Housing Partners is hosting a Landlord Summit in September (also for tenants and case managers).
- b. EMSAcare enrollment is open right now.
- c. Mayor Nichols is the parade marshall for Native American Day on Oct. 12.
- d. Commissioner Starks arrived at 4:13 pm.
- e. Commissioner Starks reported on federal advocacy for veterans' disability determinations.

VII. Action: Vote to Establish Accessibility and Inclusion Committee

- a. Chairman France provided context for this action item, included in the proposal distributed prior to the meeting. (Appendix 2) We want to create a formal platform for community members to contribute to this important conversation and lift up disability-related issues and solutions to HRC.
- b. Commissioner Meadows added that he's been part of the Tulsa Parks Accessibility and Inclusion working group, which has seen tangible results.
- c. Commissioners discussed what improvements under the City's purview are next after parks improvements as well as what tangible results have come to fruition at parks. Commissioner Meadows identified transportation as the next important topic to address.
- d. Chairman France entertained a motion to approve the establish the Accessibility and Inclusion Committee.
 - i. Commissioner Meadows motioned, Commissioner Eller Murray seconded.

1. Aye: 9, Nay: 0



- a. Commissioner Dave Walker was no longer present in the meeting.
 - ii. Motion carried, Accessibility and Inclusion Committee established.
- VIII. Old Business** – no old business
- IX. New Business** – no new business
- X. Announcements / Public Comments**
 - a. Pre-K enrollment: prektulsa.com
 - i. Currently have open seats
 - ii. Universal eligibility
 - iii. Important for academic success
- XI. Adjournment**
 - a. Chairman France entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.
 - i. Commissioner Barros motioned, Commissioner Starks seconded.
 - 1. Aye: 9, Nay: 0
 - a. Commissioner Dave Walker was no longer present in the meeting.
 - ii. Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 4:31 pm.