

Meeting Minutes | January 13, 2022 | 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

City Hall at One Technology Center

Members Present	Members Absent
Carlos Bejarano	Andy Little (Liaison)
Daniel Gomez	Mark Ohnesorge
Fatima Linares	Amanda Peregrina
Jessica Lozano	Hugo Salceda
Mimi Martinez	Angelica Reina Paz
Jordan Mazariegos	Adam Paluka (Liaison)
Amairani Perez Chamu	Elsie Urueta Pollock
Jania Rivera Wester	
Officer Brandon Hendrix (Liaison)	

I. Call to Order

- a. Commissioner Bejarano calls the meeting to order at 6:04 pm
- b. Roll Call
- c. Land Acknowledgement by Commissioner Rivera Wester

II. Introductions

- a. Chairman Bejarano calls for all commissioners to go around and introduce themselves. The commission welcomes commissioners Martinez, and Perez Chamu to the commission.

III. Chair’s Report

- a. **Highlights of the annual report submitted to the Mayor’s office.**
 - i. 2021 Tomas Rivera Awards which honored 10 heroes and 22 scholars throughout the Tulsa area – co-chaired by Commissioner Linares.
 - ii. Updated the commission bylaws
 - iii. Continued to promote and advocate for the Hispanic/Latinx community
 - iv. Numbers from the commission’s Facebook page are over 1,000 followers, 100+ plus posts, and significant reach.
 1. Commissioner Bejarano reported that he also included actions that the commission will be working on this year, which included:
 - a. Continuing efforts to vaccinate the community.
 - b. Desire to develop the GTAHLAC committee structures and organization for the year.
 - c. The GTAHLAC job fair initiative
 - d. The Tomas Rivera awards will be presented on May 12, 2022, at 6 pm during the regularly scheduled commission meeting.

IV. Officer Elections

- a. Commissioner Rivera Wester presents the slate of officers to be voted on for Chair, Vice-Chair, Recorder, and Historian.
 - i. The Recorder position has no nominees and needs to be filled.
 - ii. Commissioner Jania Wester directs all commissioners to pages 6 and 7 of the bylaws which contain the descriptions of all available positions which are chair, vice-chair, historian, and recorder.

- iii. The slate of folks nominated, if willing, will be voted on and approved by the commission.
 - 1. Commissioner Bejarano has been nominated for chair
 - 2. Commissioner Lozano has been nominated for co-chair
 - 3. Commissioner Peregrina has been nominated for the historian
 - 4. No one has been nominated to serve as the recorder.
 - a. Commissioner Bejarano suggests revisiting the vote for a historian at the next commission meeting if no one is nominated,
- iv. Commissioner Rivera Wester agrees to table the nomination for recorder and moves forward to open the floor to any nominations for recorder and votes for a slate of officers.
 - 1. Commissioner Perez Chamu nominates herself for the role of Recorder.
 - 2. Commissioner Rivera Wester requests a motion from the floor to vote.
 - 3. Commissioner Mazariegos moves to approve the slate of officers.
 - 4. Commissioner Lozano seconds the motion.
 - a. All commissioners in unanimous approval for the 2022 slate of officers. Carlos Bejarano as Chair, Jessica Lozano as Vice-Chair, Amairani Perez Chamu as Recorder and Amanda Peregrina as Historian.

V. Approval of Minutes

- a. November meeting minutes
 - i. Commissioner Rivera Wester moves to make a motion to approve the November meeting minutes.
 - 1. Commissioner Lozano seconds the motion
 - 2. All commissioners are in unanimous favor of approval.

VI. Committee Reports

a. Executive

- i. The commission submitted the annual 2021 end-of-year report to the Mayor's Office.

b. Education

- i. Commissioner Linares reports that the committee is actively collecting nominations for the Tomas Rivera Awards. This year's ceremony will be taking place on Thursday, May 12, 2022, from 6 pm-8:30 pm at Central Library's Aaronson Auditorium. The deadline will be the last week of February.
 - 1. TPS has been assisting to distribute the application for nominations, and she's working to get Union Public Schools to do the same.
- ii. The committee is still working to select awardee recipients in preparation for the Tomas Rivera Award Ceremony which will be taking place on Thursday, May 12, 2022, from 6 pm-8:30 pm at Central Library's Aaronson Auditorium.

c. Community Advocacy

- i. Commissioner Lozano reports that the committee has been regularly meeting and are actively securing vendors and participating companies for the job fair which is tentatively planned to take place April 23rd from 9 am-11 am.
 - 1. Commissioner Lozano encourages the commission to distribute the link to any interested organizations.

d. Public Safety

i. No report

e. Immigration

i. Commissioner Gomez reports that the committee has been meeting virtually. The committee currently consists of Commissioners Gomez & Peregrina.

1. The committee is currently soliciting partnerships and trying to identify gaps in resources for immigrant communities.
2. Commissioners Rivera Wester and Martinez volunteer to join the committee.

f. Special Committees

i. No report

VII. Old Business

a. Motion to approve the October meeting minutes by Commissioner Jania Wester

- i. Commissioner Linares seconds
- ii. All in unanimous approval

b. Commissioner Bejarano revisits the consideration and approval for a letter of support for the City of Tulsa to withdraw the Amicus brief to overturn the McGirt decision. He acknowledges that the letter is delayed but that it's still important to still submit on principal.

i. Commissioner Gomez notes a typo in the letter.

c. Commissioner Bejarano calls for a motion to approve sending the letter, pending the correction.

- i. Commissioner Linares makes a motion to approve
- ii. Commissioner Rivera Wester seconds
- iii. All in unanimous favor for sending the letter.

VIII. Announcements / Public Comments

a. Commissioner Perez Chamu, Coordinator of the Tulsa Library's Hispanic Resource Center announces that Tulsa libraries will be closing on Sundays to alleviate staff shortages.

b. Krystal Reyes informs the commission of the upcoming information session dedicated to highlighting the equality indicators and 2021 COVID-19 survey report, taking place January 14th via Zoom.

c. Commissioner Martinez, Partnership Development Manager for the Tulsa Area United Way, reports some of the new Global District initiatives aimed at encouraging entrepreneurship around promoting community in neighborhoods.

d. Commissioner Lozano, Community Outreach Specialist for Blue Cross And Blue Shield Oklahoma, reminds the commission that the last day to sign up for health insurance will be January 15th. This is especially important for their community amidst pandemic realities.

e. Commissioner Martinez reports that Dream Action Oklahoma will be hosting a free, virtual DACA Clinic this weekend where they'll be assisting with paperwork, renewals, and financial assistance.

IX. Adjournment

a. Commissioner Bejarano requests a motion to adjourn the meeting

b. Commissioner Rivera Wester makes a motion to adjourn



**GREATER TULSA AREA
HISPANIC/ LATINX
AFFAIRS COMMISSION**

- c. Commissioner Martinez seconds the motion
 - i. All in unanimous favor
 - 1. Meeting adjourned at 7 pm