

Meeting | February 8, 2022 | 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

City Hall at One Technology Center

Members Present	Members Absent
Marquess Dennis	Thomas Boxley
Dewayne Dickens	Darryl Bright
Brian Humphrey	David Harris
Larissa McNeil	Margaret Love
Burlinda Radney	Jameelah Stuckey
Greg Robinson II	
Jameelah Stuckey	
Maybelle Wallace	
Kristi Williams	

I. Call to Order and Introductions

- a. Meeting called to order at 6:13 pm by Commissioner Robinson

II. Approval of Minutes from November: <https://bit.ly/GTAAACNOVMM>

- a. Commissioner Robinson calls for a motion for approval
 - i. Commissioner Williams motions to approve
 - ii. Commissioner Wallace seconds the motion
 - iii. All in unanimous favor

III. Chair & Vice Chair’s Report

- i. Commissioner Robinson reports that Commissioner Williams drafted and presented a year-end report to Mayor Bynum in conjunction with each Title V Commission this past January.
 - 1. During the meeting, the mayor stated that he has put forth an appeal to allow for virtual commission meetings.
- ii. Commissioner Robinson announces plans for a commission retreat. The retreat will be a space to plan, orient the new members, and align tasks to the GTAAAC mission. Commissioner Robinson previously sent out a scheduling doodle poll via email, which requires a response by this Friday. He intends for the commission to complete the retreat before the March commission meeting.
- iii. Commissioner Robinson announces an upcoming partnership between GTAAAC & Black Wall Street (BWS). Tyrance Billingsley, founder of Black Tech Street previously presented a 10-year plan for technology enabling Black businesses to the commission, with the intention of creating a partnership.
- iv. Tyrance has formally rolled out the N21 Initiative and requested an invitation in March to talk about what it’d look like for the commission to serve on the steering committee.

- v. Commissioner Robinson invited Council woman Hall Harper to tonight’s commission meeting to provide a background on an initiative revolving around tangible reparation for Tulsans impacted by the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. The City of Tulsa passed a resolution in 2021 that acknowledged their part in the massacre, and this is processed to continue those efforts in a meaningful way.
 1. This is a community-led process, with key partnerships, which will hopefully include GTAAAC. So far, the initiative has already been able to raise \$50,000 in necessary funding to see the project through.
 - a. Commissioner Dennis asks what Councilor Hall Harper considers to be the largest obstacle in getting people on board to support this resolution.
 - i. Councilor Hall replies, funding. However, they’ve already managed to raise \$50,000 and overcome the obstacle.
 2. Commissioner Williams chimes in that this project follows a pattern of municipal reparations best practices that systemically fight for reparations in spaces that matter. She considers apology as a massive part of reparations and following up with community engagement is important. But Commissioner Williams thinks that what makes this different – is that it is supported by best practices and a national network, with an established plan and practice.
 3. Commissioner Williams believes that community engagement has to be free of political motivations and private entities to be successful, and she considers GTAAAC as a perfect apolitical public body to carry this out.
 - a. She illustrates that GTAAAC as an entity operates in pure transparency (Oklahoma Open Meetings Act & TIGOV), and this is an important detail for folks to see because they want to be sure that the people holding their funds are Black, and community members.
 - i. Standpipe hill strategies, Commissioner Robinson’s organization, has committed to partnering with this resolution pro bono – which is an intentional decision to ensure that all funds being raised are directly going into tangibly making the community have the capacity and materials to play their part.
 4. Commissioner Robinson announces that the commission will formally begin exploring this option after the retreat in March.

IV. IV. Introductions of new GTAAAC members

- i. Commissioner Robinson asks for each of the new commissioners to introduce themselves.
 1. Marquess Dennis introduces himself as the founder and Executive Director of Birthright Living Legacy, a fatherhood support program in Tulsa. Marquess has also worked in the capacity of the program director of the Tulsa dream center and is dedicated to helping Tulsa move forward
 - a. Commissioner Dennis expresses his excitement about the upcoming retreat and thinks it's important to acknowledge the way this commission came to be during retreat activities.
 2. Brian Humphrey introduces himself as the Vice President of commercial lending for City National Bank and Trust.
 3. Larissa McNeil introduces herself as the African American Resource Center Coordinator for the Tulsa County Library. She has an educational background and came to Tulsa with the Teach for America Program.
 - a. Commissioner Wallace chimes in to express her pleasure in having Commissioner McNeil on the Commission and endorses her work at the Tulsa Library.
- b. Commissioner Williams expresses gratitude for everyone that joined – and reiterates that Councilor Hall Harper pushed for this commission to be formed. The other 4 Title V Commissions - GTAIAC, MCSW, HRC, and MCSW existed for a collective 50 years before GTAAAC, and it was a fight to form the commission. There was a 2-year protest while Mayor Dewey Bartlett held office, which some of the commissioners in this room – Commissioner Wallace to be specific- participated in.
 - i. Commissioner Williams reminds the commission that it's still a fight to do important work, and appointment should not be a resume builder. Commissioner Williams expects everyone to take this opportunity seriously.

V. Presentation: 2021 Equality Indicators

- a. Krystal Reyes, Chief Resilience Officer, presents the 2021 Equality Indicator report. The link to the most recent equality indicators report can be accessed here: [CSC Tulsa Equality Indicators - CSC Tulsa](#)
 - i. Commissioner Williams wants to specifically address how Black Tulsans are primarily impacted by health inequity – which the equality indicators report as the basis for upcoming initiatives and programs for the commission to focus on.
- b. Commissioner Humphrey inquiries about the funding source for the equality indicators report.

- i. Krystal replies that the equality indicators are a city-funded initiative, which must be approved annually. The first year of the equality indicators report was funded by a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation, with the support of City general funds, and the Community Service Foundation.
- c. Commissioner Dennis asks what part the commission could play in helping to close the disparities in the data from the equality indicators.
 - i. Krystal responds that MORE has a strategy with 41 programs, initiatives, and strategies that address the equality indicators. The office is always willing to create partnerships to do any of the work, and GTAAAC would be welcome to explore the option.
- d. Commissioner Robinson asks Krystal if there are any specific indicators in the African American Community that stick out to her as the Chief Resilience Officer.
 - i. Krystal answers infant mortality as it relates to public health. Infant mortality is one of the main indicators of how healthy a society is. There are various organizations invested in addressing the indicator, both publicly and privately.
- e. Commissioner Love asks if there will there be time to make recommendations to address the health inequity indicators.
 - i. Krystal says yes and offers the opportunity to work on those together.
- f. Commissioner Dennis remarks that his organization also addresses the infant mortality rate, as is connected to the fatherhood initiative.

VI. Committee Reports

a. Housing Policy

- i. None

b. Economic Development

- i. None

c. Education Committee

- i. None

d. Cultural Awareness Committee

- i. Commissioner Love reports that in relation to Black History Month, there is an art show being held at the center for public secrets open from now till the 21st
- ii. “Out of Africa is hosting an upcoming play, titled “The Struggle Is Real”, and sponsored by Commissioner Maybelle Wallace, to be shown at 2 pm this coming Saturday at the Performing Arts Center, and again next Saturday at 3 pm. The play was written by August Wilson – and consists of a cast made up of 8 men and 1 woman.

e. Equal Justice and Accountable Policing

- i. None

f. Human Rights Commission

