

Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2022 - 3:30 p.m.

Members Present	Members Absent
Casey Bakhsh	Andrew Carlson
Drew France	Stacy Cole
Tia Juby	Carmela Hill
Larissa McNeil	Amanda Peregrina
Joshua Stark	Kim Teehee
Shannon Starr	
Andrea Walker	

- I. Call to Order and Introductions**
 - a. Meeting called to order at 3:35 pm by Chairwoman Juby
- II. Compassionate Tulsa Awards Presentation**
 - a. Commissioner Walker introduces Vicky Langston, Chairwoman of the Compassionate Tulsa Committee.
 - b. This month, The Compassionate Tulsan Committee recognized Irma Chajecki for her extensive advocacy efforts for immigrants in Tulsa.
- III. Guest Speaker: Emily Scott, Director of Planning and Vitality at Downtown Tulsa**
 - a. The Downtown Tulsa (DTT) partnership was formally established a year ago and tasked with identifying services that the district needs to thrive. The DTT team is collecting input from community stakeholders to include in remodeling the "Center of the Universe's" Boston Bridge. The Bridge was built in the 1920s and will undergo a 2.5-million-dollar update. DTT is using the opportunity to reimagine the use of the surrounding space to make it an even more welcoming and inviting space. Downtown Tulsa visited the commission to gain thoughts from the commission as subject matter experts for human rights advocacy in Tulsa.
 - i. The commissioners provided various thoughts, which included:
 - 1. Enhancing walkability and prioritizing foot traffic over vehicles.
 - 2. Enhancing the park's ability to serve as a site for multiple gatherings.
 - 3. Adding more sitting space that does not include anti-homeless architecture
 - 4. Researching and paying homage to the Boston Bridge's history as a skirmish line during the Tulsa Race Massacre
 - 5. Maintaining the integrity of the audible phenomenon that makes the Center of the Universe a famous traveler's destination
- IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes**
 - a. Chairwoman Juby requests approval of meeting minutes
 - i. Commissioner France makes a motion
 - ii. Commissioner Starr seconds the motion
 - iii. Minutes approved

V. Chair's Report

- a. Chairwoman Juby reports:
 - i. A doodle poll will be going out for a strategic planning session for the 2023 HRC year.
 - ii. Vice Chairman Starks will send an email for HRC to march in the upcoming veterans day parade on Saturday, November 11th.
- b. Special events committee
 - i. Commissioner France confirms that in December, the commission will host the Inaugural Humanitarian of the Year Award in the City Council Chambers.
 1. Moving forward, the commission will need to develop a formal process for nominees. The current committee is working on flushing it out.
- c. Fair Housing Committee
 - i. Commissioner Bakhsh reports that a Fair Housing Seminar will take place on September 21st with housing advocates across Tulsa.
- d. Community Relations Committee
 - i. Commissioner Starr reports that the committee has discussed combining efforts with the Compassionate Tulsa Committee.
- e. Compassionate Tulsa Committee
 - i. See Section II

VI. Title 5 Commission Reports:

- a. The Greater Tulsa Area Indian Affairs Commission
 - i. No report
- b. Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women
 - i. No report
- c. The Greater Tulsa Area African American Affairs Commission
 - i. Commissioner McNeil reports that the commission is also working to revitalize committees and planning another retreat to work on committees
- d. The Greater Tulsa Area Hispanic /Latinx Affairs Commission
 - i. No report

VII. Old Business

- a. Chairwoman Juby briefly recaps the commission's activity at 918 Day. She reports that it was a very successful event – the commissioners connected with various attendees and shared anti-discrimination resources offered by the City.

VIII. Announcements / Public Comments

- a. None

IX. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 4:31 pm